



STRANGE

APPROVED
BY THE
COMICS
CODE
AUTHORITY

IND.

TALES

STARRING:
THE
**HUMAN
TORCH!**

Featuring:



THE RETURN OF
THE WIZARD,
MASTER OF
EVIL!

GUEST
STARRING:
"the
FANTASTIC
FOUR!"



another
MARVEL
MASTERWORK!

Also
STARRING:



DOCTOR STRANGE
in
"THE POSSESSED!"



NOW YOU CAN SOLVE "TOUGH" MATH PROBLEMS LIKE THIS!

$$47892 \times 39421 = ?$$

AS EASY AS $1 + 1 = 2$

GET A BETTER JOB, WITH HIGHER PAY,
SECURITY IN THIS ATOMIC AGE!

Yes, in just hours you can turn into a "math wizard" even though you know little about arithmetic! Surprise your friends with your "E-Z MATH" ability . . . enjoy job security and advancement . . . a better job . . . Increase your self-confidence and prestige—all through amazing new "E-Z MATH".

The world is moving fast these days. In good times and bad the ability to handle mathematical problems in our age of electronics, automation and nuclear science is becoming more and more necessary for promotion on the job and for higher pay. If you don't think you have what it takes—and if you believe that "math" is beyond your power—then you're in for the biggest surprise of your life!

For now you CAN learn to DIVIDE, MULTIPLY, ADD and SUBTRACT figures not only quickly and easily—but also in a FRACTION of the time the average person requires! You can actually solve such tough problems as multiplying a 5-figure number by a 7-figure number in your head without ever touching pencil to paper . . . or dividing 836791 by 284, for example, in exactly 15 seconds—even if you "flunked" math in school!

The secret of success in "math" is NOT laborious study and wearisome practice—but, on the contrary, knowledge of SPECIAL SHORT CUTS, LITTLE-KNOWN METHODS of calculation and arithmetical "tricks" that take the work and gamble out of figuring. These methods—so new and radical that they have not yet been incorporated in our school systems—take but a few hours to learn. Yet they permit you to OUT-THINK and OUT-FIGURE the average high school and college graduate who hasn't had the benefit of these amazing methods! You can even BEAT AN ELECTRIC CALCULATOR in answering many problems!

Figure with SPEED and ACCURACY!

"E-Z MATH" shows you in plain, easy-to-understand language how to cut figuring time in HALF and even in QUARTERS—and at the same time arrive at the correct answer in every case! The methods and short cuts you learn in "E-Z MATH" are fool-proof . . . require almost NO memorization . . . and are so practical that you'll find yourself using these systems virtually every day. You'll become an expert in no time at all. Before you know it—you're ready to move into that important job you've always wanted . . . to drive ahead and in greater responsibility at higher pay . . . and to amaze, surprise and delight your friends with your new magic powers of mental arithmetic! Yes, "math" will open up new opportunities for you, since the person with "math" know-how can just about "write his own ticket."

Sharpen Your Brain Power— with Short-Cut "E-Z MATH"!

Imagine being asked to divide 38654 by 891½—and rattling off the answer absolutely correctly in 7 seconds! Or—multiplying 369.34 by 982.7 and coming up with the correct result in 11 seconds! Or adding 29 numbers each with 6 digits—and supplying the right total every time! People will GASP at your fabulous lightning-quick mind. You'll be able to JUGGLE numbers . . . do STUNNING TRICKS . . . amaze your friends and boss—and be a "master mind!"

With a knowledge of "E-Z MATH" you no longer need be puzzled by such every-day figuring as computing interest charges on installment purchases . . . division, multiplication and addition of fractions . . . adding long rows of numbers with 100% accuracy . . . adding and subtracting fractions from whole numbers—plus many, many other practical and valuable pointers you will use daily to your advantage. The few hours you spend with this course will really pay off. Numbers are the basic instrument of all scientific and technical work. The man or woman who can use "math" is rewarded, recognized quickly, moves ahead in his job faster and more surely!

Order Today on No-Risk Free Home Trial!

Send for "E-Z MATH" today on our no-risk money-back guarantee: use the book for 30 days . . . prove to your own satisfaction how far a knowledge of "E-Z MATH" can advance you in business and social life. If you don't agree that this is the best investment you've ever made . . . if your family and friends aren't AMAZED by your new ability—return the book for full and prompt refund.

"My 10-year old had nearly always failed arithmetic with old-method arithmetic. Then he found my copy of 'E-Z MATH'. Now in less time than you can put the numbers on a blackboard, he can multiply 8391726547 by 12. It's amazing and incredibly easy. I use it myself on my job and my wife uses it to check grocery lists."

A Father:
"You have a unique new teaching approach for which I compliment you. It's the best I have ever seen. Pupils' marks seem to be climbing as a result. Should help in any job. Excellent for home tutoring use."

SCHOOL PRINCIPAL:
"Thank you! Thank you! Thank you! All our children are using your system too, and it is terrific. My husband and I are using it—and it works! My husband has already received a job advancement with tremendous boost in pay. Best investment we have ever made!"

HOUSEWIFE

E-Z MATH PROGRAM

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DEPT. R-101 285 Market St.

Newark, NEW JERSEY

This man is multiplying numbers that should ordinarily produce the answer in about 4 minutes. The answer appears on his blackboard in less than 15 seconds flat! Yet he knows little about math! As a matter of fact he failed arithmetic in school. Read on to discover the fantastic new method that even a child can learn easily in just a few short hours—at home . . .

CAN YOU SOLVE THESE EVERY-DAY BUSINESS AND SOCIAL ARITHMETIC PROBLEMS IN THE TIME ALLOWED? YOU CAN DO THEM EASILY EVEN WHEN BLINDFOLDED—AFTER YOU'VE READ "E-Z MATH"!



Blindfold yourself and have someone call the following numbers to you as you add them:

729
463
906
785
642

(Solve in 6 seconds) ?

$$9864372 \div 8146 = ? \quad (\text{Solve in 9 seconds})$$

$$\frac{7}{9} \times \frac{9}{7} = ? \quad (\text{Solve in 4 seconds})$$

1¼% interest per month amounts to what percentage yearly? (Solve in 4 seconds)

$$367 \times 75 = ? \quad (\text{Solve in 3 seconds})$$

WHAT IS "E-Z MATH"?

"E-Z MATH" is based on an amazing new method of working with numbers—easier to use than you ever dreamed possible when you were in school. You'll be shown the newest way of reading numbers—just as though they were words—and of adding and subtracting them almost at a glance—INSTANTLY! You'll be shown a unique new technique for adding hundreds and even thousands of numbers without ever making a mistake . . . yet now on you'll write through all figuring problems without wasting your valuable time through income tax, checking grocery lists, never again dislike or avoid numbers—you'll actually ENJOY using them to get ahead in business!

WHAT THEY SAY:

"My employee, Joe Malone, asked for a better job. I recommended he read 'E-Z MATH'. Now that he can do 'tough' problems easily, I've promoted him to head of his department with a \$35 weekly increase in pay. I now suggest all employees read 'E-Z MATH' if they want to get ahead in their jobs."

Business Executive

MAIL NO-RISK FREE HOME TRIAL COUPON NOW!

E-Z MATH PROGRAM DEPT. R-101
285 Market St., Newark, NEW JERSEY

OK! Prove to me that "E-Z MATH" can bring me higher pay, prestige and social advancement! Rush book to me postpaid in plain wrapper for 30-day free examination and use. If I don't agree with everything you say about "E-Z MATH"—I may return book for prompt refund. I am enclosing \$2.98 as payment in full.

NAME _____ AGE _____
(Please Print)

ADDRESS _____

CITY _____ ZONE _____ STATE _____

"The HUMAN TORCH

"THE MAN WHO BECAME THE TORCH!"

FEATURING THE RETURN OF...

THE WIZARD!

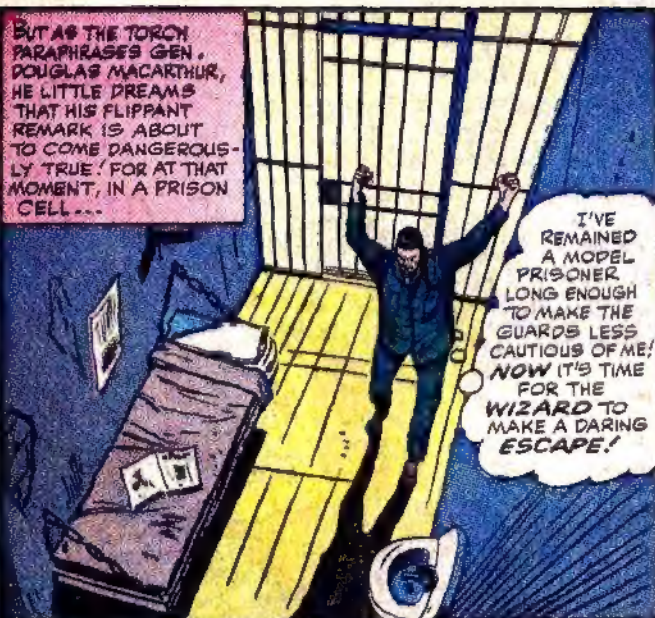


X-593

Story: STAN LEE Art: DICK AYERS lettering: S. ROSEN



BUT AS THE TORCH PARAPHRASES GEN. DOUGLAS MACARTHUR, HE LITTLE DREAMS THAT HIS FLIPPANT REMARK IS ABOUT TO COME DANGEROUSLY TRUE! FOR AT THAT MOMENT, IN A PRISON CELL...



I'VE REMAINED A MODEL PRISONER LONG ENOUGH TO MAKE THE GUARDS LESS CAUTIOUS OF ME! NOW IT'S TIME FOR THE WIZARD TO MAKE A DARING ESCAPE!

I'VE PLANNED EVERY MOVE DOWN TO THE LAST DETAIL! I MADE THE MATERIALS I NEED IN THE PRISON WORKSHOP, WHILE NOBODY SUSPECTED WHAT I WAS UP TO! AND NOW...



GUARD! GUARD! HELP!! I NEED HELP!!

HEY! WHAT'S ALL THE RUCKUS, WIZARD? WHAT DO...

IT TOOK ME WEEKS TO MAKE THIS SLEEPING POTION, GRAIN BY GRAIN... BUT IT WAS WORTH IT!



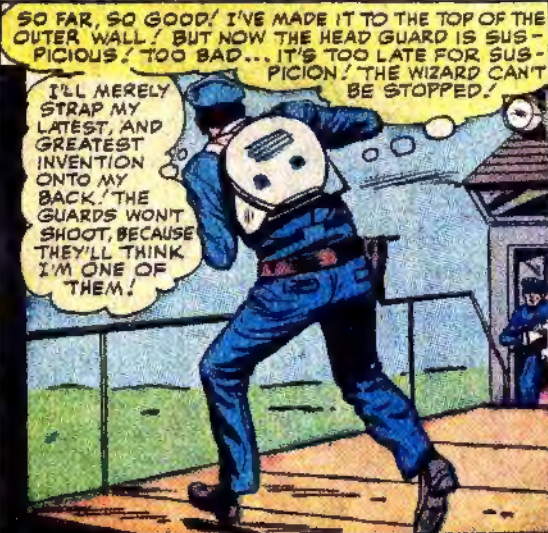
ONNH!!

SO MUCH FOR PHASE ONE! NOW A QUICK CHANGE OF CLOTHES!

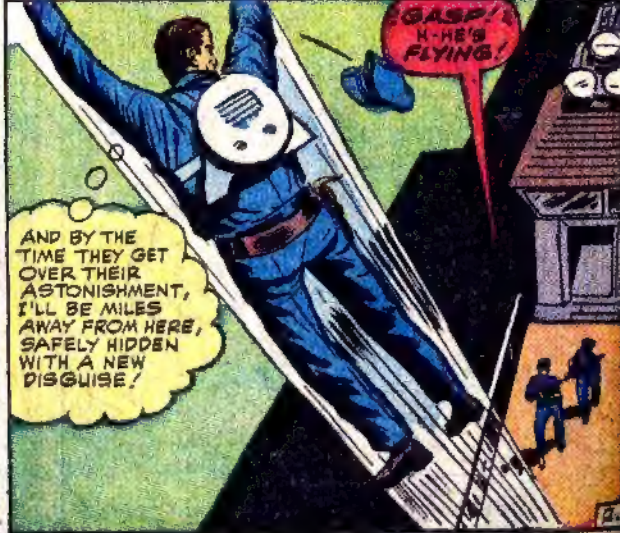


I'VE STUDIED THE ART OF DISGUISE IN THE PRISON LIBRARY, AND WITH MY SUPERIOR BRAIN, I'VE BECOME A MASTER AT IT! I'LL COVER MY BEARD WITH ACTOR'S PUTTY, MADE FROM MELTED CRAYONS... THEN, A FEW MORE TOUCHES...

SO FAR, SO GOOD! I'VE MADE IT TO THE TOP OF THE OUTER WALL! BUT NOW THE HEAD GUARD IS SUSPICIOUS! TOO BAD... IT'S TOO LATE FOR SUSPICION! THE WIZARD CAN'T BE STOPPED!



I'LL MERELY STRAP MY LATEST, AND GREATEST INVENTION ONTO MY BACK! THE GUARDS WON'T SHOOT, BECAUSE THEY'LL THINK I'M ONE OF THEM!



AND BY THE TIME THEY GET OVER THEIR ASTONISHMENT, I'LL BE MILES AWAY FROM HERE, SAFELY HIDDEN WITH A NEW DISGUISE!

GASP! K-HE'S FLYING!



MY ANTI-GRAVITY POWER UNIT ISN'T DEVELOPED ENOUGH FOR ME TO FLY FOR LONG DISTANCES, BUT IT CAN GET ME FROM TREE TO TREE!

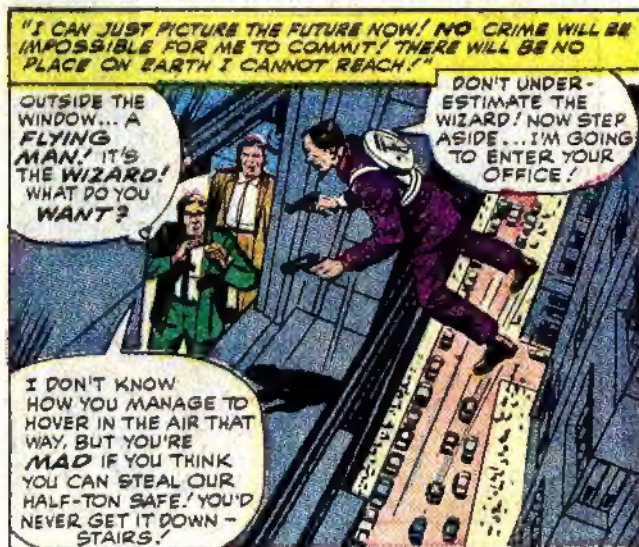
AND BY STAYING IN THE TREE TOPS, I LEAVE NO TRAIL FOR THE BLOOD-HOUNDS TO FOLLOW! HOW EASY THIS IS FOR A MAN OF MY GENIUS!



LITTLE DID THEY DREAM, WHEN I SPENT ALL MY FREE TIME IN THE PRISON WORKSHOP, THAT I WAS MAKING A CRUDE ANTI-GRAV DEVICE TO ENABLE ME TO ESCAPE! WHO COULD HAVE SUSPECTED SUCH A THING WAS POSSIBLE?



BUT, ONCE I'M SAFE IN MY HIDDEN LAB, I'LL IMPROVE THIS SELF-FLYER! IT WILL BE THE GREATEST ASSET ANY CRIMINAL HAS EVER POSSESSED!

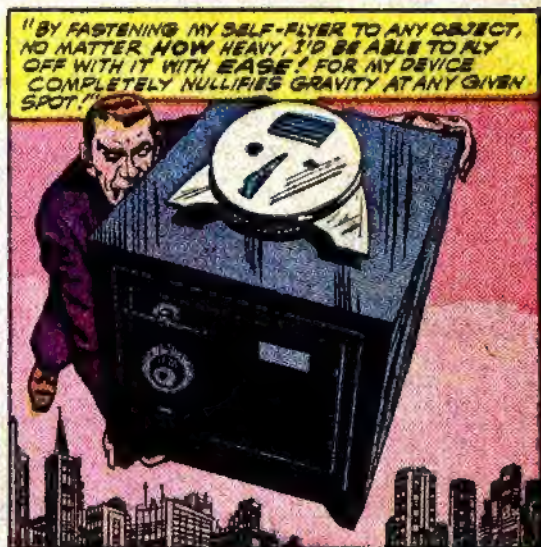


"I CAN JUST PICTURE THE FUTURE NOW! NO CRIME WILL BE IMPOSSIBLE FOR ME TO COMMIT! THERE WILL BE NO PLACE ON EARTH I CANNOT REACH!"

OUTSIDE THE WINDOW... A FLYING MAN! IT'S THE WIZARD! WHAT DO YOU WANT?

DON'T UNDER-ESTIMATE THE WIZARD! NOW STEP ASIDE... I'M GOING TO ENTER YOUR OFFICE!

I DON'T KNOW HOW YOU MANAGE TO HOVER IN THE AIR THAT WAY, BUT YOU'RE MAD IF YOU THINK YOU CAN STEAL OUR HALF-TON SAFE! YOU'D NEVER GET IT DOWN - STAIRS!



"BY FASTENING MY SELF-FLYER TO ANY OBJECT, NO MATTER HOW HEAVY, I'D BE ABLE TO FLY OFF WITH IT WITH EASE! FOR MY DEVICE COMPLETELY NULLIFIES GRAVITY AT ANY GIVEN SPOT!"



"THE WEALTH OF THE WORLD WOULD SOON BE MINE! AND POWER! UNDREAMED-OF POWER! SUPREME POWER! ALL FOR... THE WIZARD!"



BUT, MY HIDEOUTS HAVE BEEN DISCOVERED BEFORE! THIS TIME IT MUST BE DIFFERENT

THIS TIME I MUST BE SAFE LONG ENOUGH TO FINISH MY SELF-FLYER! AND WHAT BETTER HIDEOUT IS THERE THAN ANOTHER PERSON'S IDENTITY!



DAYS LATER, AS THE HUMAN TORCH PRACTICES LOW-LEVEL FLIGHT MANEUVERS OVER HIS TERRACE ...

MAIL CALL, LITTLE BROTHER, COME AND GET IT!

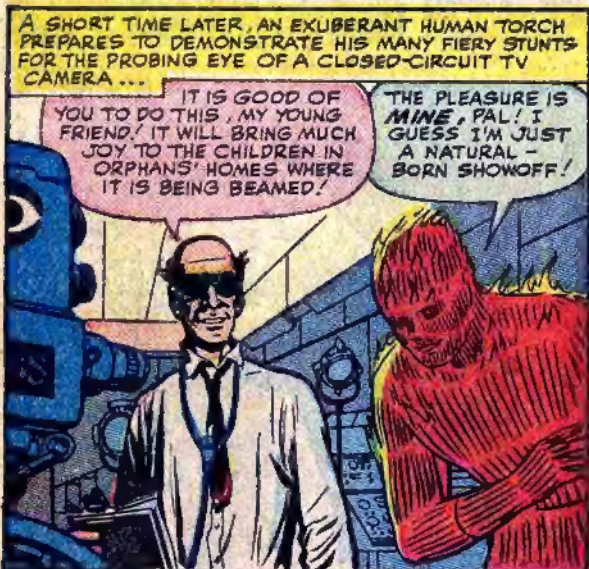
WHO'S IT FROM, SUE? MOST OF THE FAN MAIL IS SENT DIRECTLY TO F.F. HEADQUARTERS!

IT'S FROM A TV STUDIO! LOOKS LIKE IT MIGHT BE IMPORTANT! I'LL OPEN IT FOR YOU!



WELL! AREN'T YOU THE IMPORTANT ONE! THEY WANT YOU TO GIVE A ONE-MAN EXHIBITION FOR CHARITY OVER CLOSED-CIRCUIT TV!

YIPPEE! I MAY BECOME THE CAPTAIN KANGAROO OF THE TEEN-AGE SET!



A SHORT TIME LATER, AN EXUBERANT HUMAN TORCH PREPARES TO DEMONSTRATE HIS MANY FIERY STUNTS FOR THE PROBING EYE OF A CLOSED-CIRCUIT TV CAMERA ...

IT IS GOOD OF YOU TO DO THIS, MY YOUNG FRIEND! IT WILL BRING MUCH JOY TO THE CHILDREN IN ORPHANS' HOMES WHERE IT IS BEING BEAMED!

THE PLEASURE IS MINE, PAL! I GUESS I'M JUST A NATURAL-BORN SHOWOFF!



AND, AS THE LONG MINUTES TICK BY, AND JOHNNY PERFORMS TRICK AFTER TRICK ...

HOW MUCH DO YOU WANT? MY FLAME DOESN'T LAST FOREVER, YOU KNOW!

JUST A FEW MORE DEMONSTRATIONS, PLEASE! DON'T STOP NOW! AFTER ALL, REMEMBER IT'S FOR CHARITY!



HMM! YOUR FLAME DOES SEEM TO BE GETTING A BIT WEAKER NOW! THINK YOU CAN PERFORM JUST ONE MORE STUNT?

'FRAID NOT! I'VE HAD IT! IT'LL BE BURNED OUT COMPLETELY IN ANOTHER FEW SECONDS!



THERE SHE GOES! IT'LL BE ABOUT AN HOUR BEFORE I CAN FLAME ON AGAIN! BUT IF YOU WANT ME TO HANG AROUND AND DO SOME MORE LATER, I'LL BE GLAD TO!

NO! I'VE ALREADY GOT WHAT I WANT, YOU YOUNG FOOL!!

HUH? WHAT? DID YOU SAY WHAT I THINK YOU SAID?



IF YOU WEREN'T SUCH A CONCEITED SHOW-OFF, YOU'D HAVE NOTICED THAT THESE AREN'T **REAL** TV CAMERAS! THEY MERELY GENERATE A BEAM OF PURE WHITE ENERGY, STRONG ENOUGH TO RENDER ANY NORMAL HUMAN UNCONSCIOUS... LIKE THIS!



THAT'S WHY I WANTED YOU TO DO ALL THOSE STUNTS... SO YOU'D USE OUT YOUR FLAME AND BE **VULNERABLE!**

AND SO, TORCH, WE MEET AGAIN!



A SHORT TIME LATER, AT THE WIZARD'S NEW HIDEOUT...

YOU DEFEATED ME IN OUR LAST ENCOUNTER, TORCH! (EDITOR'S NOTE: STRANGE TALES #110) BUT NOW IT'S TIME FOR THE WIZARD'S REVENGE!

IF I REMAIN HERE LONG ENOUGH, THE POLICE WILL EVENTUALLY FIND ME, BUT I AM ABOUT TO LOSE MYSELF IN THE SAFEST HIDEOUT OF ALL... IN THE IDENTITY OF THE **HUMAN TORCH!**



I'VE SPENT **WEEKS** COPYING THIS COSTUME SO THAT IT'S AN EXACT REPLICA OF THE ONE YOU WEAR! AND, BY APPLYING SOME SPECIAL MAKEUP WAX...

I'LL COMPLETELY CONCEAL MY OWN HANDSOME FEATURES WHILE I CAREFULLY SHAPE THIS SOFT SKIN PUTTY TO RESEMBLE YOU! THEN, I DON A HAND-MADE BLONDE WIG, AND...



VOILA! THE PERFECT HIDING PLACE! WHO'D EVER SUSPECT THAT THE HEROIC **HUMAN TORCH** IS, IN TRUTH, THE FAR SUPERIOR **WIZARD**??

BUT YOU WILL SOON BE RECOVERING CONSCIOUSNESS! I HAVE TO PUT YOU WHERE YOU CAN NEVER GET FREE... CAN NEVER DEFEY ME AGAIN! AND I HAVE JUST SUCH A PLACE PREPARED FOR YOU! THE **LAST RESTING PLACE** OF THE REAL HUMAN TORCH!



EXACTLY ONE HOUR LATER...

THERE! IT IS DONE! THE TORCH WILL NEVER ESCAPE! HE'S FINISHED AT LAST!

AND BY MEANS OF A COLD-FLAME UNIT WHICH I WEAR UNDER MY COSTUME, AND MY ANTI-GRAVITY DEVICE WHICH IS TIGHTLY-STRAPPED TO MY BACK, I CAN IMITATE ALMOST ANYTHING THE **REAL TORCH** CAN DO!

CONTINUED AFTER NEXT PAGE.

ANOTHER MARVEL MASTERPIECE



IN THE FABULOUS MARVEL STYLE

An Amazing Invention—"Magic Art Reproducer"

**DRAW
THE FIRST DAY
NO LESSONS! NO TALENT!**

Anyone can Draw With This
Amazing New Invention—
Instantly!



See Live Model
Complete for only

\$198

—With extra
high power,
extra clear and
sharp "repro-
ducer" unit.

A New Hobby Gives You A Brand New Interest!

Yes, anyone from 5 to 80 can draw or sketch or paint anything now... the very first time you use the "Magic Art Reproducer" like a professional artist—no matter if you're a "hopeless" you think you are! An unlimited variety and amount of drawings can be made. Art is admired and respected by everyone. Most hobbies are expensive, but drawing costs very little, just some inexpensive paper, pencils, crayons, or paint. No costly upkeep, nothing to wear out, no parts to replace. It automatically reproduces anything you want to draw on any sheet of paper. Then easily and quickly follow the lines of the "picture image" with your pencil... and you have an accurate original drawing that anyone would think an artist had done. No guesswork, no judging sizes and shapes! Reproduces black and white and actual colors for paintings.

Also makes drawing larger or smaller as you wish.

Anyone can use it on any desk, table, board, etc.—indoors or outdoors! Light and compact to be taken wherever you wish. No other lessons or practice or talent needed! You'll be proud to frame your original drawings for a more distinctive touch to your home. Give them to friends as gifts that are "different," appreciated.

Have fun! Be popular! Everyone will ask you to draw them. You'll be in demand! After a short time, you may find you can draw well without the "Magic Art Reproducer" because you have developed a "knack" and feeling artists have—which may lead to a good paying art career.

FREE!

"How to Easily Draw Artists' Models"

This valuable illustrated guide is yours free with order of "Magic Art Reproducer." Packed with pictures showing all the basic poses of artists' models with simple instruction for beginners of art. Includes guidance on anatomy, techniques and figure action.



SEND NO MONEY!

Free 10-Day Trial!

Just send name and address. Pay postman on delivery \$1.98 plus postage. Or send only \$1.98 with order and we pay postage. You must be convinced that you can draw anything like an artist, or return merchandise after 10-day trial and your money will be refunded.

**Even if You
CAN'T DRAW**

A STRAIGHT LINE

**You Can Draw Your Family,
Friends, Anything From
REAL LIFE— Like An Artist...**

**Even if You CAN'T DRAW
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**ALSO EXCELLENT FOR EVERY OTHER
TYPE OF DRAWING AND HOBBY!**



**Create Your Own Design
for All Hobbies!
Reproduce on anything.**



**Copy all cartoons,
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**Outdoor Scenes,
landscapes, buildings**



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of family, friends, etc.**



**Still life, vases, bowls
of fruit, lamps,
furniture, all objects.**



**Copy blueprints,
plans.**

FREE 10-DAY TRIAL COUPON

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296 Broadway, New York 7, N. Y.**

Rush my "Magic Art Reproducer" plus FREE illustrated guide "How to Easily Draw Artists' Models." I will pay postman on delivery only \$1.98 plus postage. I must be convinced that I can draw anything like an artist, or I can return merchandise after 10-day trial and get my money back.

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☐ Check here if you wish to save postage by sending only \$1.98 with coupon. Same Money Back Guarantee!

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Dept. 992, 296 Broadway
New York 7, N. Y.



MY NEXT STEP NOW IS TO DISPOSE OF **SUE STORM** AS NEATLY AS I DISPOSED OF THE TORCH! AND THERE SHE IS NOW!

WITH HER OUT OF THE WAY, I CAN LIVE IN THEIR HOUSE AS LONG AS I PLEASE IN PERFECT SAFETY! IF ANYONE ASKS FOR THE GIRL, I'LL SAY SHE'S ON VACATION!

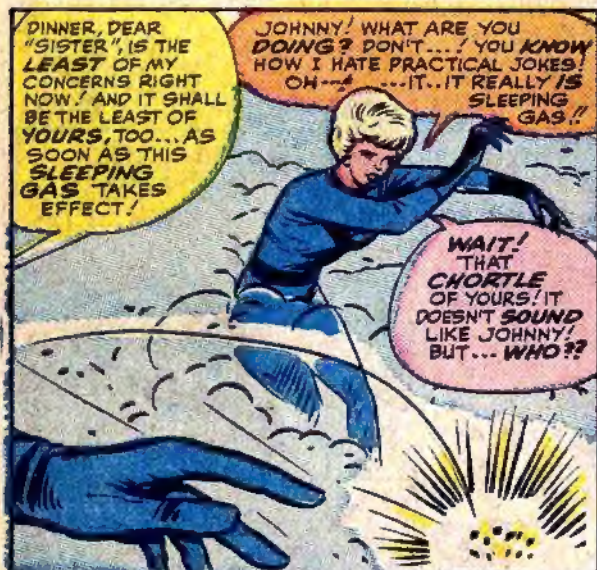
JOHNNY! WHERE'VE YOU BEEN? YOU'RE LATE! HOW DID THE TV SHOW GO?



I'LL SWITCH OFF THE COLD-FLAME WIRES BEHIND MY BACK, TO IMITATE THE WAY THE TORCH FLAMES OFF!

THE SHOW WAS **GREAT**, SIS! I BETTER START WRITING MY EMMY ACCEPTANCE SPEECH RIGHT AWAY!

BUT FIRST, LITTLE BROTHER, YOU'D BETTER WASH UP AND COME TO THE TABLE BEFORE YOUR DINNER GETS **ICY COLD**!



DINNER, DEAR "SISTER", IS THE **LEAST** OF MY CONCERNS RIGHT NOW! AND IT SHALL BE THE **LEAST** OF YOURS, TOO... AS SOON AS THIS **SLEEPING GAS** TAKES EFFECT!

JOHNNY! WHAT ARE YOU DOING? DON'T... YOU KNOW HOW I HATE PRACTICAL JOSES! OH... IT... IT REALLY IS **SLEEPING GAS**!!

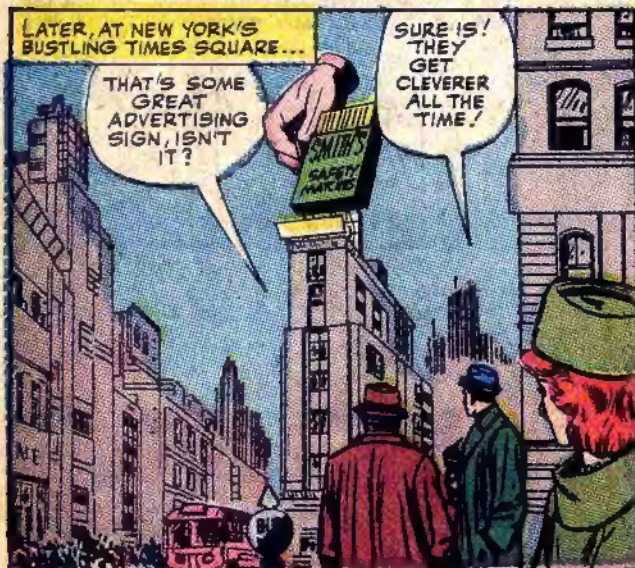
WAIT! THAT **CHORTLE** OF YOURS! IT DOESN'T SOUND LIKE JOHNNY! BUT... WHO??



HAVEN'T YOU **GUESSED** YET? BUT NO... HOW COULD YOU? YOU'VE FALLEN FAST **ASLEEP**! MY, HOW LOVELY YOU LOOK... SO PEACEFUL... SO QUIET...

I ALMOST **REGRET** THE FACT THAT I HAVE TO TAKE YOU TO WHERE I HAVE IMPRISONED THE TORCH... BUT THERE IS NO OTHER WAY!

THIS IS THE **WIZARD'S** GREATEST TRIUMPH! WHAT A PITY NONE BUT YOU TWO WILL EVER KNOW OF IT!



LATER, AT NEW YORK'S BUSTLING TIMES SQUARE...

THAT'S SOME GREAT ADVERTISING SIGN, ISN'T IT?

SURE IS! THEY GET CLEVERER ALL THE TIME!



BOY! IT LOOKS SO REAL, YOU ALMOST EXPECT THE HAND TO **LIGHT** THAT MATCH AT ANY MINUTE!

DON'T PLAY WITH FIRE.... USE **SMITH'S SAFETY MATCHES**!

BUT LET US LEAVE TIMES SQUARE AND RETURN TO THE WIZARD AS HE HEADS FOR THE HEADQUARTERS OF THE FANTASTIC FOUR, HIGH ATOP NEW YORK'S FAMOUS BAXTER BUILDING!

THERE'S JUST ONE MORE THING I HAVE TO DO, TO REALLY BURN ALL MY BRIDGES BEHIND ME!

I'VE GOT TO MAKE SURE THE DANGEROUS FANTASTIC FOUR DON'T START GETTING SUSPICIOUS AND I KNOW JUST HOW TO DO IT!

HEY, REED, I TOLD YOU TO KEEP THAT BLAMED WINDOW SHUT! YOU NEVER KNOW WHAT KIND OF INSECTS AND OTHER FLYIN' PESTS ARE LIABLE TO COME BUZZIN' AROUND TO ANNOY US TWO BUSY INTELLECTUAL GIANTS! LOOKS LIKE ONE OF 'EM JUST SNEAKED IN NOW!

LISTEN, GRUE-SOME, DID ANYONE EVER TELL YOU YOU'RE AS FUNNY AS A WART, AND TWICE AS UGLY?!

I'VE GOT TO REMEMBER TO TRY TO SOUND AS MUCH LIKE THE WISE-GUY TORCH AS POSSIBLE!

IF MY VOICE SOUNDS STRANGE TO YOU, REED, DON'T WORRY ABOUT IT! I'VE CAUGHT A COLD! IN FACT, THAT'S WHAT I WANNA TALK TO YOU ABOUT!

MAKE IT FAST, JOHNNY... I'M BUSY!

THIS'LL BE SHORT N SWEET, BOSS MAN! SUE AND I HAVE BEEN WORKIN' TOO HARD! WE WANNA TAKE A VACATION!

ON ACCOUNT OF CATCHING A LITTLE COLD? DOESN'T SOUND LIKE YOU, SON!

THE COLD'S ONLY PART OF IT! WE'VE HAD THIS "TOGETHERNESS" BUT UP TO OUR EARS! WE WANNA BE ALONE FOR A WHILE... GO TO SOME SUNNY RESORT AND FORGET THE FANTASTIC FOUR EVEN EXISTS!

ALL R GHT MY EMOT ONAL YOUNG FREND! THIS SN'T THE ARMY! YOU CAN TAKE OFF IF YOU WANT TO! I HOPE YOU BOTH HAVE A GOOD TIME!

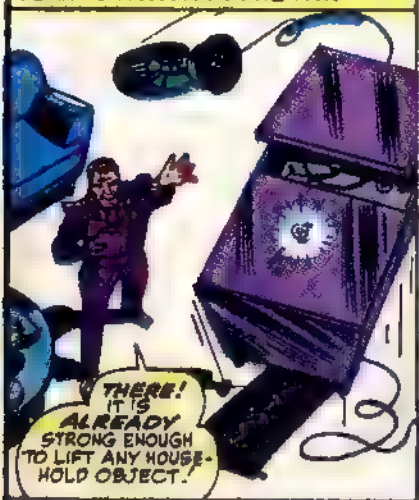
HEY! WHAT DO YA MEAN THIS AIN'T THE ARMY?? WHY SHOULD THEY BE ENTITLED TO A VACATION INSTEAD OF LOVABLE ME??

IT'S BEST THIS WAY, BEN! SOMETHING IS BOTHERING HIM... AND IT'S NOT A VACATION! HE'LL TELL US ABOUT IT IN HIS OWN GOOD TIME!

AND SO, THE WIZARD RETURNS TO THE MOST PERFECT HIDEOUT OF ALL... THE HUMAN TORCH'S OWN HOUSE! A HOUSE WHICH HE NOW HAS ALL TO HIMSELF! THEN FEELING OFF HIS DISGUISE, HE GLEEFULLY SETS TO WORK...

NO WONDER THEY CALL ME THE WIZARD! I CAN OUTSMART ANYBODY! AND NOW TO FINISH DEVELOPING MY MINIATURE, TRANSISTORIZED ANTI-GRAV DEVICE! SOON, THE WORLD SHALL BE MINE!!

THE EVIL GENIUS SPENDS THE NEXT FEW HOURS TESTING THE POWER OF HIS AMAZING INVENTION... TESTING IT... REFINING IT... IMPROVING IT...



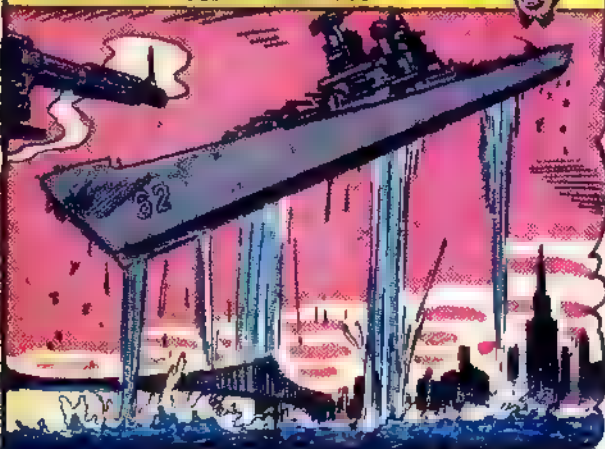
"SOON, I'LL FIND A WAY TO FURTHER INCREASE ITS POWER! I'LL BE ABLE TO LIFT CARS, TRUCKS, TANKS! WITH SUCH A DEVICE, THERE IS NO CRIME I CANNOT ATTEMPT."



"BUT WHY SHOULD I STOP THERE? NOTHING BUT MY OWN INGENUITY CAN LIMIT THE POWER OF MY ANTI-GRAV INVENTION! BY WORKING ON IT LONGER... REFINING IT STILL MORE... I SHOULD BE ABLE TO LIFT SOMETHING THE SIZE OF A HOUSE..."

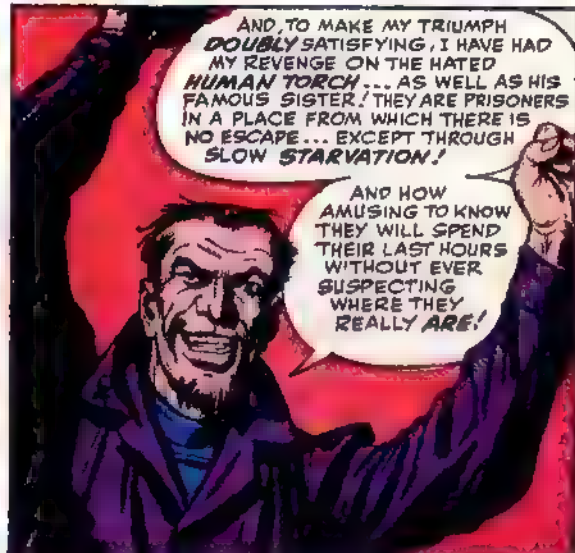


"...OR EVEN A BATTLESHIP! I NEED NOT STOP AT ORDINARY CRIMES! I COULD BECOME A WORLD POWER, SINGLE-HANDED, BY POSSESSING THE ONE DEVICE ON EARTH WHICH CAN NULLIFY GRAVITY!"

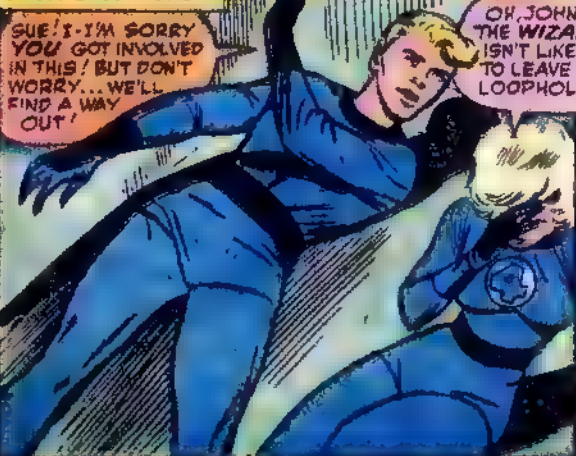


AND, TO MAKE MY TRIUMPH DOUBLY SATISFYING, I HAVE HAD MY REVENGE ON THE HATED HUMAN TORCH... AS WELL AS HIS FAMOUS SISTER! THEY ARE PRISONERS IN A PLACE FROM WHICH THERE IS NO ESCAPE... EXCEPT THROUGH SLOW STARVATION!

AND HOW AMUSING TO KNOW THEY WILL SPEND THEIR LAST HOURS WITHOUT EVER SUSPECTING WHERE THEY REALLY ARE!

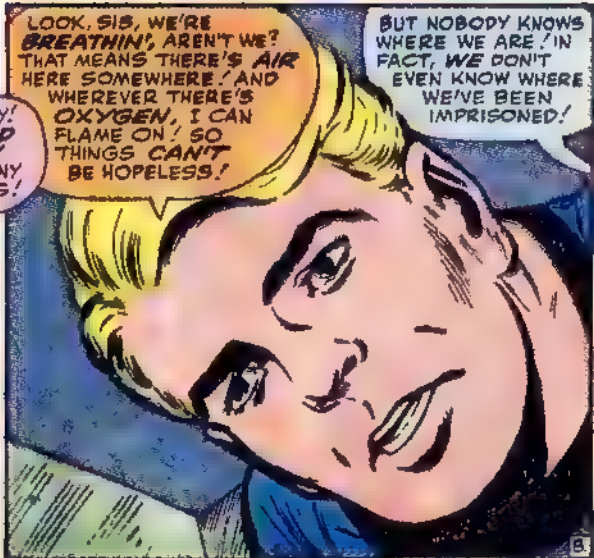


WILL THE WIZARD'S FATEFUL PREDICTION REALLY COME TRUE? LET US TURN OUR ATTENTION NOW TO THE TWO PRISONERS HE IS REFERRING TO, AS THE TORCH AND SUE REGAIN CONSCIOUSNESS IN A STRANGE, DIMLY LIT ENCLOSURE...



LOOK, SIS, WE'RE BREATHIN', AREN'T WE? THAT MEANS THERE'S AIR HERE SOMEWHERE! AND WHEREVER THERE'S OXYGEN, I CAN FLAME ON! SO THINGS CAN'T BE HOPELESS!

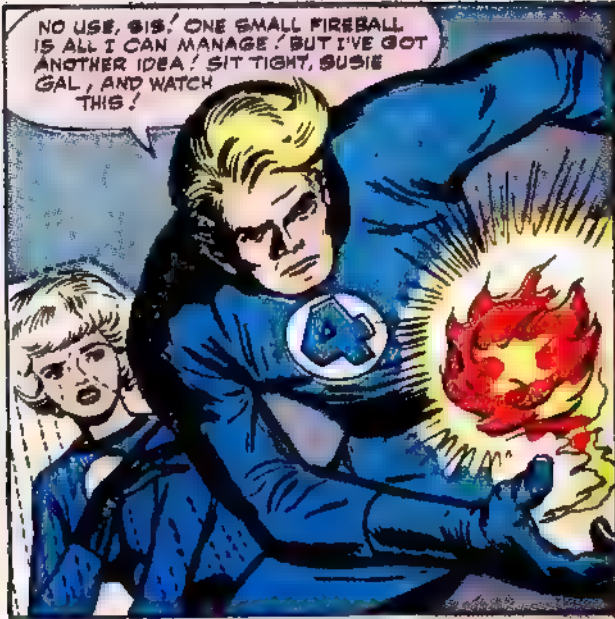
BUT NOBODY KNOWS WHERE WE ARE! IN FACT, WE DON'T EVEN KNOW WHERE WE'VE BEEN IMPRISONED!



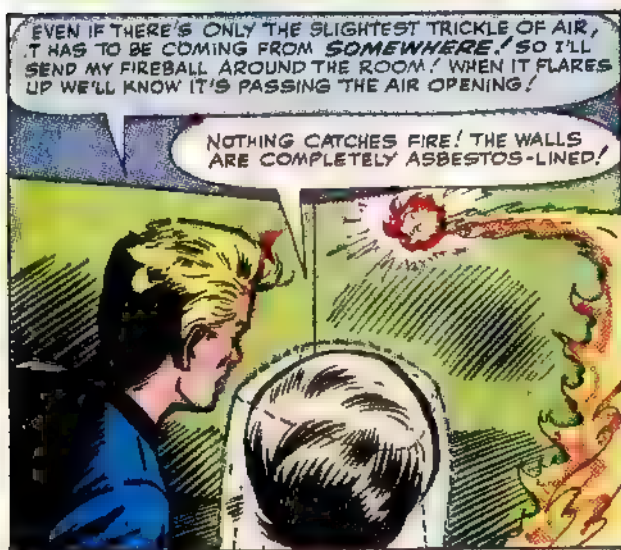


HAHA! COME TO *THINK* OF IT, THE OXYGEN SUPPLY IS PRETTY *LOW* IN HERE! I CAN ONLY FLAME ON A SLIGHT BIT... JUST MY *HAND*!

TRY YOUR HARDEST, JOHNNY. I'LL ENCLOSE MYSELF IN AN INVISIBLE FORCE SHIELD TO GUARD AGAINST THE HEAT OF YOUR FLAME!

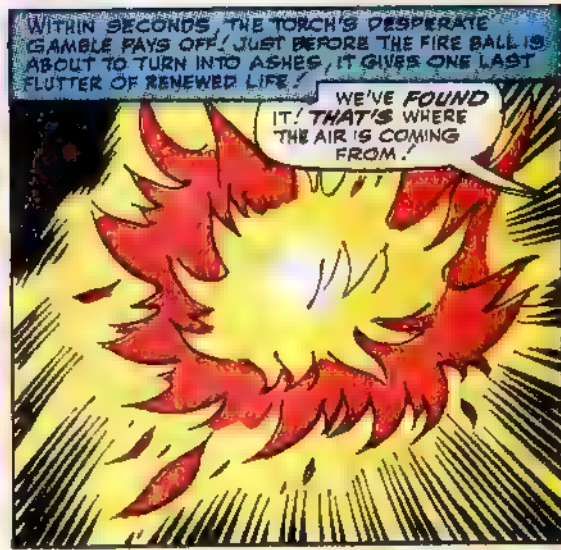


NO USE, SIS! ONE SMALL FIREBALL IS ALL I CAN MANAGE! BUT I'VE GOT ANOTHER IDEA! SIT TIGHT, SUSIE GAL, AND WATCH THIS!



EVEN IF THERE'S ONLY THE SLIGHTEST TRICKLE OF AIR, IT HAS TO BE COMING FROM *SOMEWHERE*! SO I'LL SEND MY FIREBALL AROUND THE ROOM! WHEN IT FLARES UP WE'LL KNOW IT'S PASSING THE AIR OPENING!

NOTHING CATCHES FIRE! THE WALLS ARE COMPLETELY ASBESTOS-LINED!

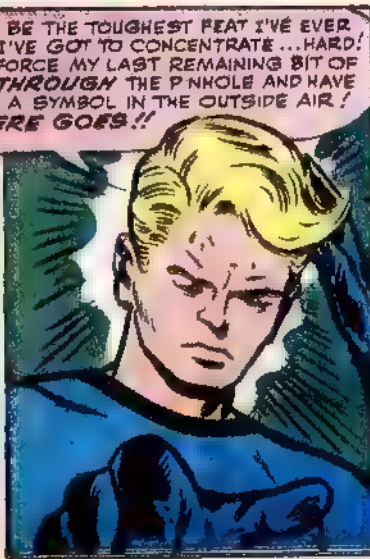


WITHIN SECONDS, THE TORCH'S DESPERATE GAMBLE PAYS OFF! JUST BEFORE THE FIRE BALL IS ABOUT TO TURN INTO ASHES, IT GIVES ONE LAST FLUTTER OF RENEWED LIFE!

WE'VE FOUND IT! THAT'S WHERE THE AIR IS COMING FROM!



IT'S ONLY A PIN-HOLE!... PROBABLY SO TINY THAT THE WIZARD NEVER EVEN SUSPECTED IT WAS HERE! BUT IT'S GONNA BE OUR TICKET TO FREEDOM, SIS!



THIS'LL BE THE TOUGHEST FEAT I'VE EVER TRIED! I'VE GOT TO CONCENTRATE... HARD! GOT TO FORCE MY LAST REMAINING BIT OF FLAME *THROUGH* THE PINHOLE AND HAVE IT FORM A SYMBOL IN THE OUTSIDE AIR! *HERE GOES!!*



THAT'S IT, SUE! LET'S JUST HOPE SOMEONE SEES IT!

MINUTES LATER...

WHAT'S ALL THE COMMOTION IN THE STREET, BEN? ALL THOSE PEOPLE SHOUTING ... POINTING TOWARDS TIMES SQUARE?

OPEN YOUR PEEPERS, SON! LOOK! IT'S OUR F.F. EMERGENCY SIGNAL ... PRINTED IN FIRE!

MOVING WITH THE SPEED AND PRECISION OF THE WELL-TRAINED FIGHTING TEAM THEY ARE, MR. FANTASTIC AND THE POWERFUL THING SOON REACH THE BASE OF THE OUTDOOR DISPLAY SIGN ...

WHATEVER THE TROUBLE IS, IT'S COMING FROM UP THERE, BEN! LET'S NOT WASTE TIME CLIMBING UP! EVERY SECOND MAY COUNT!

WHAT DO YA WANT ME TO DO, BIGDOME? SPROUT WINGS AND FLY?!

NOT EXACTLY, MY SWEET-NATURED FRIEND! HANG ONTO MY SHOULDERS ... LIKE THIS!

HEY! IT'S LIKE RIDIN' AN EXPRESS ELEVATOR! SO YOU FINALLY FOUND SOME USE FOR THAT CORNY STRETCHING POWER OF YOURS!

HOLD STILL WHILE I SMASH THROUGH THIS BLAMED THING! STOP SHAKIN' ... I'M GETTIN' SEASICK!

LISTEN! VOICES INSIDE! IT'S THE TORCH... AND SUE!

MUCH OBLIGED, BIG BUDDIES! NOW TAKE CARE OF SUE WHILE I PAY A LITTLE CALL ON THE WIZARD!

NEXT TIME YOU DECIDE TO TAKE A VACATION, JOHNNY BOY, TRY THE SEA-SHORE! THEN WE WON'T HAVE TO PAY FOR BREAKING ADVERTISING DISPLAYS!

BE CAREFUL, JOHNNY! YOU KNOW HOW DIABOLICALLY CLEVER HE IS!

REED'S BEEN HANGIN' AROUND BEN TOO LONG ... HE FINALLY MADE A FUNNY! AS FOR ME, I CAN'T WAIT TO TANGLE WITH THAT MURDEROUS WIZARD AGAIN! HOPE HE'S STILL HIDING OUT IN MY HOUSE, SUSPECTING NOTHING!

CONTINUED AFTER NEXT PAGE...



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You could be . . . If you mastered Auto Mechanics, a well-paid trade

30 Job Experience Projects Included

CTI lessons are written in simple English and fully illustrated. Thousands have learned auto mechanics through lessons alone. To make it still easier to apply "lesson learning" to actual auto repairing, and to build your confidence, CTI provides each student with 30 Job Experience Projects. This practical instruction will encourage you to begin repairing cars as you train, and earn money in spare time. It will help you get experience.

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15 KITS OF TOOLS AND TESTING INSTRUMENTS



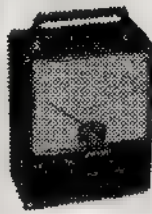
MECHANIC'S TOOLS INCLUDING SOCKET SET AND TRAY



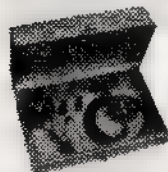
TORQUE WRENCH



VISCO-ANALYZER (VOLT-AMPERE TESTER)



CAM ANGLE TACHOMETER



VACUUM GAUGE AND FUEL PUMP TESTER; COMPRESSION TESTER



STARTER CURRENT INDICATOR



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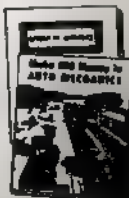
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BUT, ALAS, IN THIS DAY OF TELEVISION NEWS AND SPECIAL BULLETINS, THE WIZARD LEARNS OF THE TORCH'S ESCAPE WITHIN SECONDS AFTER IT HAS BEEN ACCOMPLISHED.

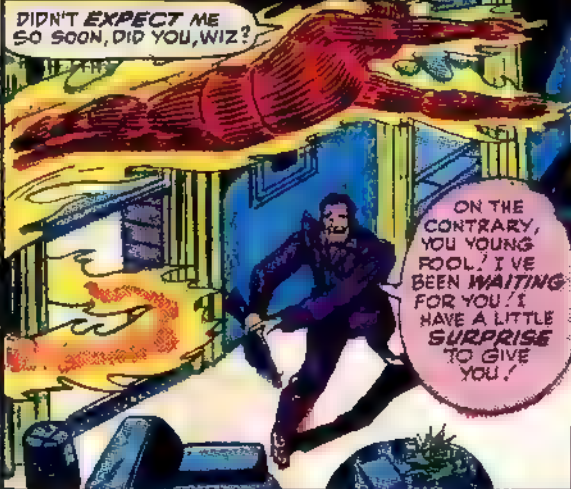
WE WILL BRING YOU FURTHER DEVELOPMENTS AS SOON AS THEY ARE RECEIVED! STAY TUNED TO THIS CHANNEL FOR THE LATEST BULLETINS...

SO THEY'RE FREE, ARE THEY? WELL, NO TIME TO CRY OVER SPILT MILK, I'VE GOT TO MAKE NEW PLANS!



THEN JUST AS THE WIZARD LOADS HIS UNIQUE WEAPON...

DIDN'T EXPECT ME SO SOON, DID YOU, WIZ?



ON THE CONTRARY, YOU YOUNG ROOL, I'VE BEEN WAITING FOR YOU! I HAVE A LITTLE SURPRISE TO GIVE YOU!

LUCKILY I FINISHED CONSTRUCTING MY ANTI-GRAV SHOTGUN IN TIME TO GREET THE TORCH WITH IT WHEN HE ARRIVES, AS HE IS SURE TO DO! THE ANTI-GRAV PELLET, COATED WITH ADHESIVE, WILL STICK TO THE TORCH'S COSTUME AND CARRY HIM OFF ON A ONE-WAY JOURNEY INTO SPACE!



SUPPOSE YOU JUST STEP OUTSIDE NOW, TORCH! I WOULDN'T WANT YOU TO SHATTER A PERFECTLY GOOD CEILING WHEN YOU GO SAILING OFF INTO THE BLUE!

YOU SOUND MORE LIKE A NUT THAN EVER... BUT I'LL PLAY ALONG WITH YOU, JUST SO YOU CAN'T SAY I DIDN'T GIVE YOU A CHANCE... AFTER I PULVERIZE YOU!!



HAH! I KNOW WHAT YOU'RE THINKING... YOU CAN MELT ANY ORDINARY BULLET!

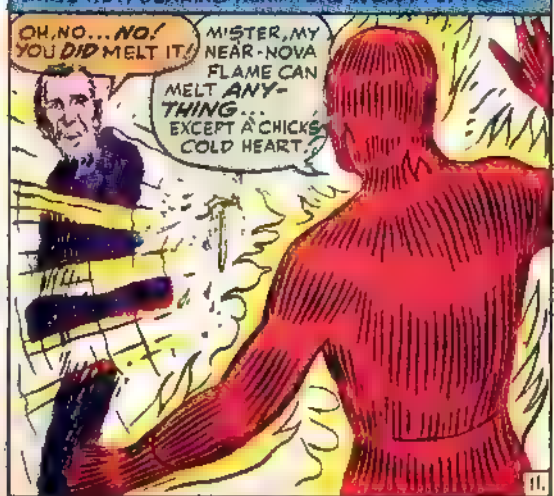
BUT THIS IS NOT AN ORDINARY GUN, SHOOTING ORDINARY SHELLS! WATCH, I'LL GIVE YOU A LITTLE DEMONSTRATION... THE LAST THING YOU'LL EVER SEE ON EARTH!

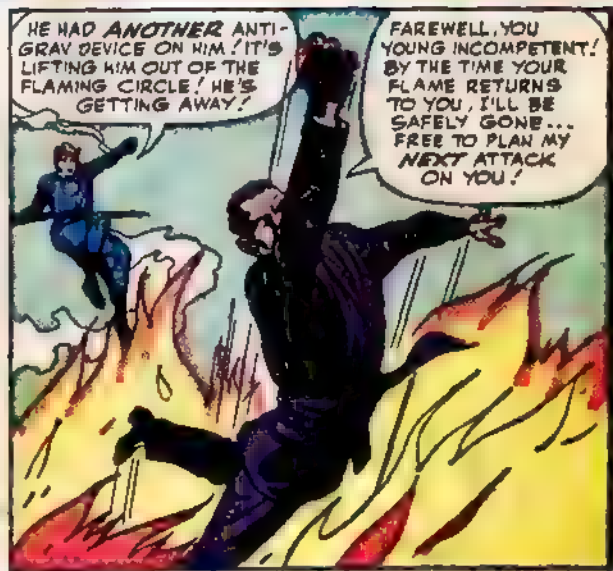
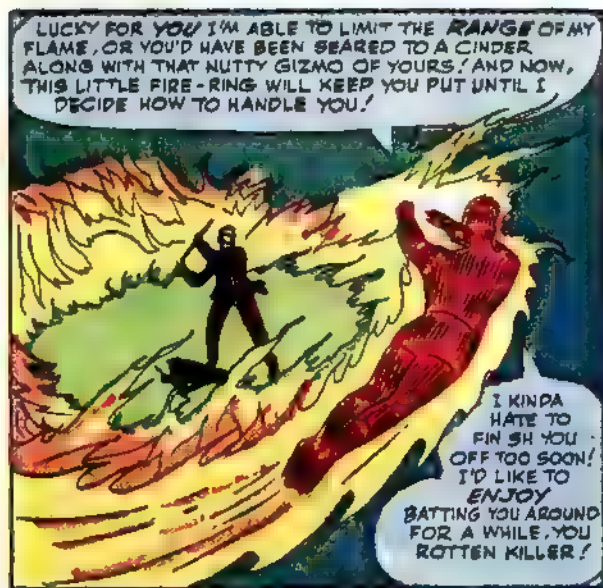


BUT, AT THE SAME SECOND THAT THE WIZARD FIRES HIS WEAPON, THE TORCH BURSTS INTO FLAME! A WHITE HOT, SEARING MINIATURE NOVA FLAME!

OH, NO... NO! YOU DID MELT IT!

MISTER, MY NEAR-NOVA FLAME CAN MELT ANYTHING... EXCEPT A CHICK'S COLD HEART.





I'VE GOT TO TRY TO LASSO HIM WITH A FIERY LARIAT AND... OH NO! HE'S HAD A NEW SURGE OF SPEED! REACHING STRATOSPHERE! NOT ENOUGH OXYGEN UP THERE... CAN'T FOLLOW...

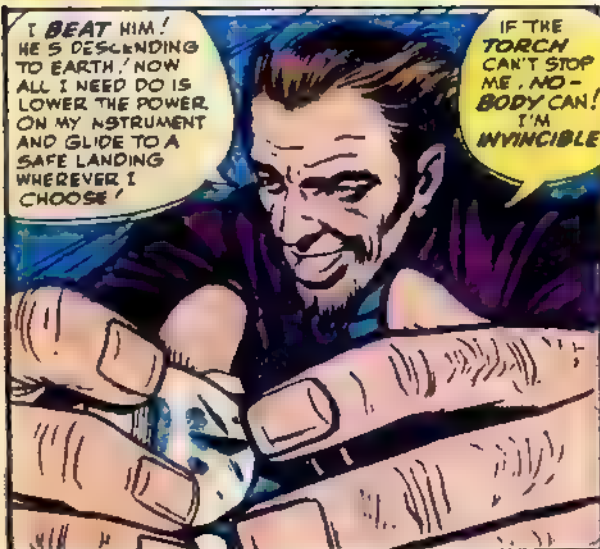


THE LASSO FELL SHORT! I'VE FAILED! HAVE TO LAND NOW! ...I'M GETTING WEAK! I- I'VE FAILED! ...SOB!!



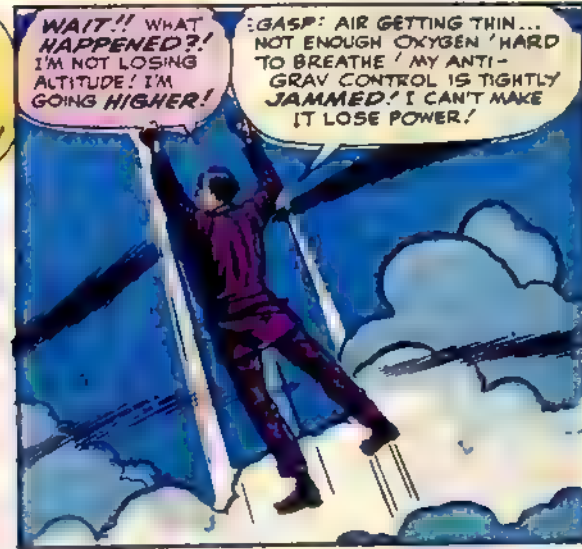
I BEAT HIM! HE'S DESCENDING TO EARTH! NOW ALL I NEED DO IS LOWER THE POWER ON MY INSTRUMENT AND GLIDE TO A SAFE LANDING WHEREVER I CHOOSE!

IF THE TORCH CAN'T STOP ME, NO-BODY CAN! I'M INVINCIBLE!



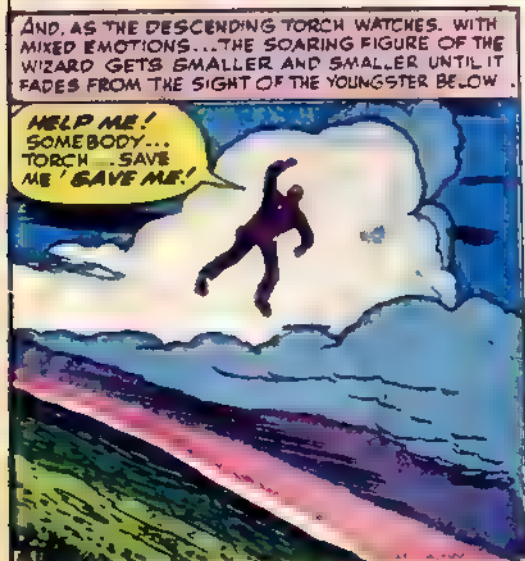
WAIT!! WHAT HAPPENED?! I'M NOT LOSING ALTITUDE! I'M GOING HIGHER!

!GASP! AIR GETTING THIN... NOT ENOUGH OXYGEN! HARD TO BREATHE! MY ANTI-GRAV CONTROL IS TIGHTLY JAMMED! I CAN'T MAKE IT LOSE POWER!



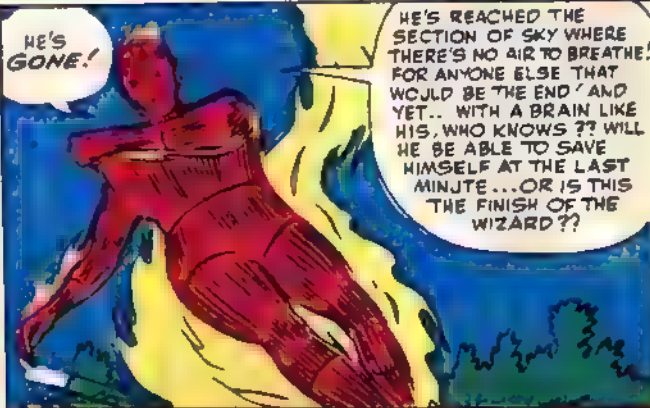
AND, AS THE DESCENDING TORCH WATCHES, WITH MIXED EMOTIONS... THE SOARING FIGURE OF THE WIZARD GETS SMALLER AND SMALLER UNTIL IT FADES FROM THE SIGHT OF THE YOUNGSTER BELOW.

HELP ME! SOMEBODY... TORCH... SAVE ME! SAVE ME!



HE'S GONE!

HE'S REACHED THE SECTION OF SKY WHERE THERE'S NO AIR TO BREATHE! FOR ANYONE ELSE THAT WOULD BE THE END! AND YET... WITH A BRAIN LIKE HIS, WHO KNOWS?? WILL HE BE ABLE TO SAVE HIMSELF AT THE LAST MINUTE... OR IS THIS THE FINISH OF THE WIZARD??



FOR THE ANSWER TO THAT ONE, ONLY TIME WILL TELL... ALTHOUGH YOUR LETTERS MIGHT ALSO HELP! BUT REST ASSURED THAT THERE ARE COUNTLESS NEW SUPER-VILLAINS WAITING TO PIT THEIR SINISTER SKILLS AGAINST THE TORCH! AS WE SHALL PROVE IN THE NEXT ISSUE OF **STRANGE TALES**, IN OUR OWN SLY LITTLE WAY, HOPE WE'LL SEE YOU THEN!

The End

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THE WEATHERMAN

"DON'T know what the world is coming to," said Willie Wimms as he put down the morning newspaper. "Says here that there's a scientific rainmaker working this area. Seems it's been too dry and the reservoir water is running low. The prediction is for the rain to break this afternoon. Imagine that, rain today and all because science can make it!"

"Well, what's wrong with artificial rainmaking?" asked his bright-eyed son, Hugh Wimms.

"Oh, nothing's wrong with it," his father replied. "I'm just amazed at what folks are able to do nowadays."

Hugh shrugged his shoulders. It didn't affect him like it did his father to read about modern rainmaking. He was growing up in an age where he accepted these things as casually as his Dad had once regarded electric lights or radio.

"Only thing that bothers me," Hugh confessed, "is that our baseball outing will be rained out! The fellows were planning a picnic, too. Golly, I wish this old rainmaker didn't have to spoil our fun. There's nothing we can do now."

"Hugh, will you come here a minute," his mother called. "I forgot to pick up your father's cold medicine when I was in town this morning, but I can't run in again. I've got to get the laundry done before this rain ruins my chances to dry the wash. Your Dad mustn't take a chill by going out, so I'm go-

ing to send you. Put on your rain slicker in case it starts coming down, and ride your bicycle carefully over the roads in case you get caught in the down-pour.

"I don't know if we should let Hugh go out now," his father said with a worried shake of his head. "It's a long way to town, and if a storm breaks before he gets back here . . ."

"Oh, please, Dad, I'll manage fine!" Hugh assured him. "Doctor said you should take that medicine, you know."

He ran to get his rain gear, and his mother looked after him smilingly.

"He's proud as can be to have the responsibility," she told Mr. Wimms, "And besides, it does give him something to do now that the boys have had their plans spoiled."

After Hugh left the druggist, he noticed that the sky was quite dark. He would have to hurry or he might get caught in the storm, he decided. He pedaled his bicycle as fast as he could. When he saw a stick lying on the road ahead of him, he had no time to brake and avoid it. Fortunately, it was not too large a stick, so he rode over it. The stick snapped in two, but at the same time there was a rumble of loud thunder, and the wheels of his bicycle went flat. The bicycle jogged to a stop, and Hugh tumbled off.

"How could a little stick like that cause so much trouble?" he asked aloud as he got to his

feet again.

"Trouble!" a voice exclaimed behind him. "That stick didn't cause as much trouble as you did, my lad! That stick was one of my most valuable tools!"

Hugh turned quickly to see a strange-looking fellow staring angrily at him. He was dressed head to foot in an oilskin wrapper unlike any raincoat Hugh had ever seen.

"I'm sorry if I caused you any trouble," Hugh apologized politely. "I was hurrying home to . . ."

"Indeed you were," snapped the little man. "Just look up there and you'll see what you've done!"

Hugh looked skywards. He could hardly believe his eyes! The clouds overhead had split as cleanly as the stick he had broken, and the clear sky gleamed through.

"I . . . I don't understand how I did that," Hugh stammered in confusion.

"Young man," the stranger said, "this is the first time in thousands of years that I've quarreled with anyone who interfered with my work. I usually don't brag to folks about the work I do. Today I guess I let my temper get the better of me. You might as well know the whole story.

"I am a rainmaker, one of the best there is, I must admit. Now, fellows in my profession have a lot of land to cover. When it's off-season in my particular territory, I can take a

CONTINUED

DR. STRANGE

DARES TO
PROBE THE
UNCANNY
SECRET OF...

"The POSSESSED!"

TO ALL OUTWARD APPEARANCES THEY WERE ORDINARY HUMANS, JUST AS THEY HAD ALWAYS BEEN! AND YET, DR. STRANGE KNEW THEY WERE IN THE GRIP OF SOME UNCANNY SUPER-NATURAL FORCE... A FORCE WHICH, IF UNCHECKED, COULD DESTROY THE WORLD!

EIGHT POWERFUL, PULSE-
POUNDING PAGES! PROOF
POSITIVE THAT THIS ERA WILL
FOREVER BE HERALDED AS
**THE MARVEL AGE OF
COMICS!**



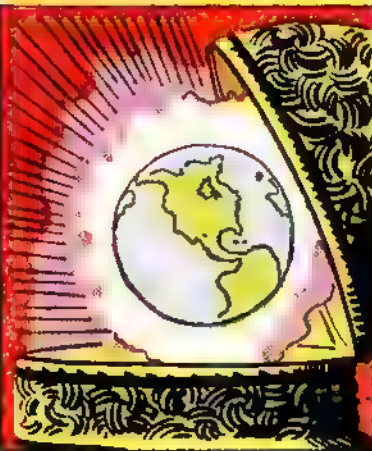
WRITTEN BY MAGICAL
STAN LEE
DRAWN BY MYSTICAL
STEVE DITKO
LETTERED BY MYSTERIOUS
SAM ROSEN

SILENCE! YOU ARE NOW OBSERVING THE MOST DRAMATIC MAN OF MYSTERY THE WORLD HAS EVER KNOWN! YOU ARE BEHOLDING THE MASTER OF THE MYSTIC ARTS...THE INSCRUTABLE **DR. STRANGE**...

AT MY COMMAND, LET THE SEAL BE BROKEN... LET MY EARTHLY SCANNER BE REVEALED!

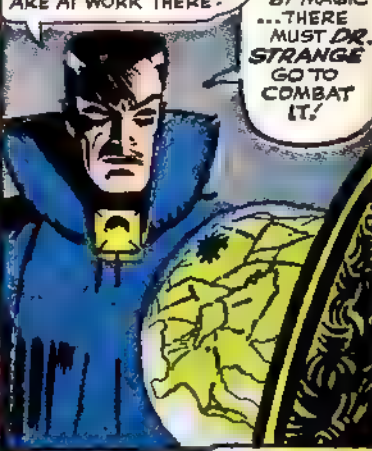


SLOWLY, SILENTLY, WITH NO VISIBLE FORCE IN EVIDENCE SAVE THE POWER OF SORCERY ITSELF, THE LID OPENS WIDE, REVEALING A SMALL REPLICA OF THE PLANET EARTH!



IT IS AS I FEARED! A DARK PATCH HAS APPEARED IN THE MOUNTAINS OF BAVARIA! SUPERNATURAL FORCES ARE AT WORK THERE!

AND WHERE MANKIND IS MENACED BY MAGIC...THERE MUST **DR. STRANGE** GO TO COMBAT IT!



SOMETIME LATER, ATOP A LONELY PEAK HIGH IN THE BAVARIAN ALPS, A VOICE WHICH IS NOT QUITE A VOICE ISSUES A STRANGE COMMAND!

THE TIME HAS COME! GO YE FORTH AND TAKE POSSESSION OF THE HUMANS!



WHILE IN THE VALLEY BELOW, ALL IS PEACEFUL AND FRIENDLY AS IT HAS BEEN FOR CENTURIES PAST...

GOOD DAY TO YOU, FRAU LIEBER!

AND TO YOU, HERR BRAUN!

SUCH A NICE, FRIENDLY MAN IS HERR BRAUN!



BUT SUDDENLY, "NICE, FRIENDLY HERR BRAUN" PASSES THROUGH A SHIMMERING SHADOWED AREA, AND A MYSTIC GLOW SEEMS TO ENVELOP HIM...



AND THEN, ONCE THE GLOW HAS FADED AWAY...

GOOD DAY, HERR BRAUN!

WHY, HE DID NOT EVEN ANSWER! AND I... HIS BEST FRIEND!

HOW STRANGELY HE WALKS! AS THOUGH IN A TRANCE! HE SEEMS NOT TO KNOW US!

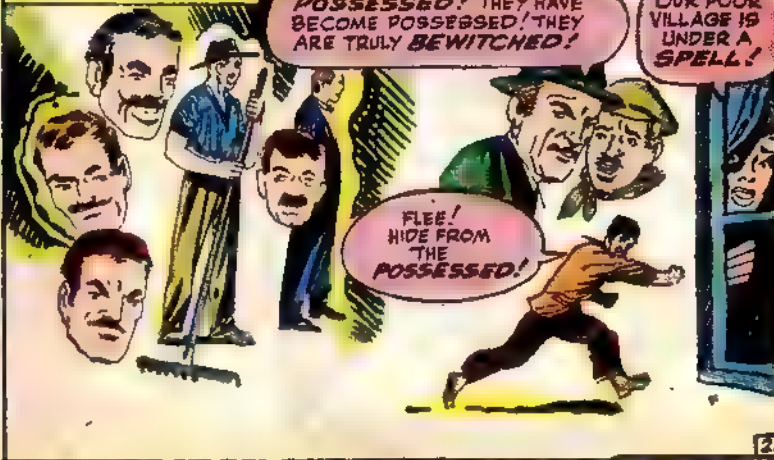


AS THE HOURS PASS, MORE AND MORE VILLAGERS UNSUSPECTINGLY WALK THROUGH THE SHADOWY AREA... AND EMERGE LIKE PEOPLE IN A TRANCE, THEIR EYES GLAZED, THEIR MEMORIES GONE! SLOWLY, THE VILLAGERS CHANGE... AND THOSE WHO DO NOT CHANGE, SOON TAKE UP THE FEARFUL CRY OF...

POSSESSED! THEY HAVE BECOME POSSESSED! THEY ARE TRULY BEWITCHED!

OUR POOR VILLAGE IS UNDER A SPELL!

FLEE! HIDE FROM THE POSSESSED!

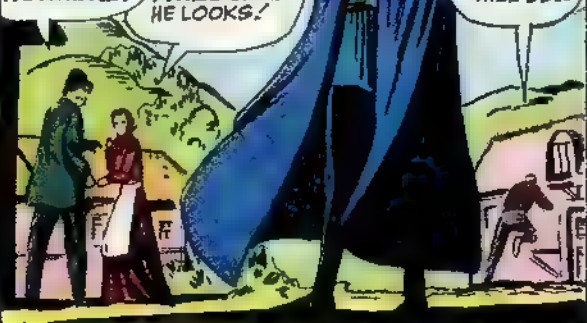


BUT SOON THE SUPERSTITIOUS VILLAGERS FIND THEY HAVE **ANOTHER** EVENT TO FEAR, OR SO THEY THINK, AS THEY SEE THE TALL, IMPOSING FIGURE OF A DARK-EYED STRANGER APPEAR IN THEIR MIDST!

HE... HE SEEMS TO HAVE APPEARED FROM **NOWHERE!**

HIS MANNER! HIS CLOTHES! AND MOST OF ALL... HIS EYES! HOW **AWESOME** HE LOOKS!

PERHAPS IT IS **HE** WHO HAS BEWITCHED US! WHO CAN KNOW **WHO** HIS NEXT VICTIM WILL BE!?



BUT DR. STRANGE FINDS ONE WHO DOES **NOT** FEAR HIM! AN AGED, SIGHTLESS PEASANT, WHO HAS LONG SINCE LEARNED THE USELESSNESS OF SENSELESS PANIC...

...AND THAT IS ALL I KNOW ABOUT THESE TERRIBLE HAPPENINGS! IT IS AS IF SOME DARK POWER HAS TAKEN CONTROL OF OUR PEOPLE AND **BEWITCHED** THEM!

FRET NOT, MY FRIEND! I SHALL LEARN THE ANSWER AND DRIVE THIS EVIL ENCHANTMENT FROM YOUR LAND!



AH, THIS IS THE HOME OF ONE WHO THE AGED PEASANT SAID WAS POSSESSED!

STAY BACK! I SPEAK TO **NO ONE!** LEAVE ME, OR YOU **DIE!**

I WISH TO SPEAK WITH YOU, IF I MAY!



BUT, AT A GESTURE FROM THE MASTER OF BLACK MAGIC...

YOU ARE **INDEED** POSSESSED!..FOR THOSE ARE NOT THE WORDS OF A FRIENDLY BAVARIAN FARMER! **LET YOUR LIMBS BECOME IMMOBILE!**

I-I CANNOT MOVE!



THIS IS NO ORDINARY HUMAN! HE IS MENTALLY PROBING MY MIND! BUT HE MUST LEARN NOTHING! MY ONLY COURSE IS TO **FLEE!**



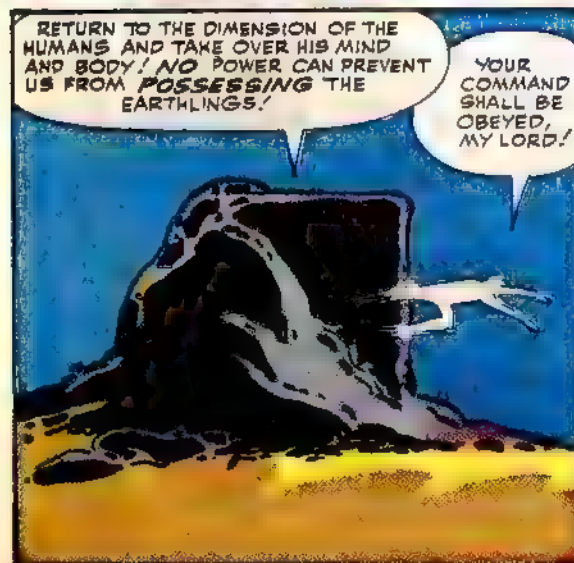
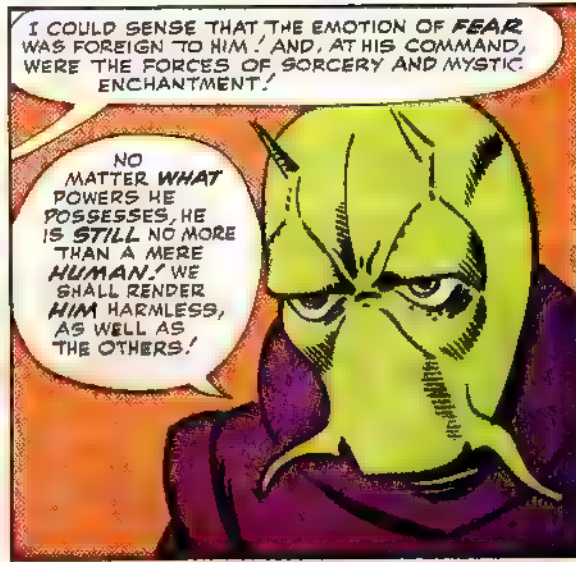
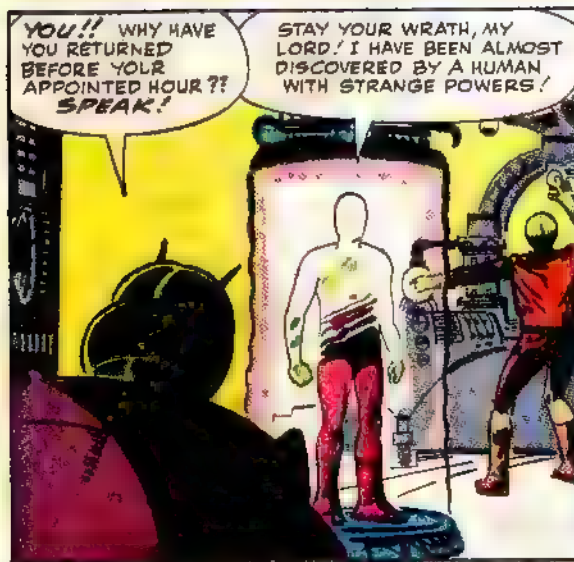
SOMEHOW I HAVE BEEN DEFEATED! MY MENTAL PROBE HAS FOUND **NOTHING!** AND YET, FOR ONE SPLIT-SECOND, I SEEMED TO SENSE A PRESENCE... AN EVIL, INHUMAN PRESENCE!



BUT, AT THAT VERY MOMENT, UNSEEN BY THE BEWILDERED DR. STRANGE, A FANTASTIC ETHEREAL FIGURE LOSES ITSELF IN THE SHADOWY RECESSES OF THE MYSTERIOUS MOUNTAIN!

I MUST WARN THE "OTHERS"! THIS NEWCOMER MUST BE DESTROYED! FOR HIS POWER IS DIFFERENT THAN THAT OF THE OTHER, WEAKER HUMANS!



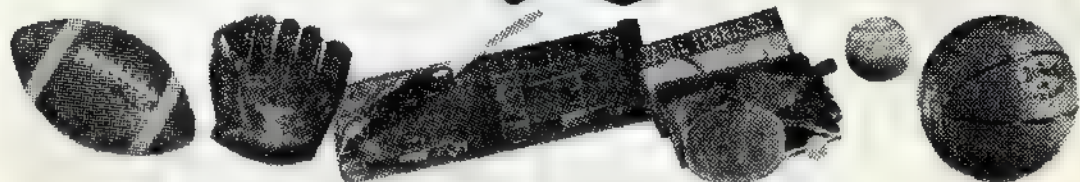


CONTINUED AFTER NEXT PAGE...

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AND, AS THE MAN OF MYSTERY SEEMS TO SIT SILENTLY BROODING...

NOW IS THE MOMENT TO STRIKE!



I HAVE DONE IT! HIS BODY IS NOW POSSESSED!



AND YET, I AM UNABLE TO TAKE CONTROL! IT DOES NOT OBEY MY COMMANDS!

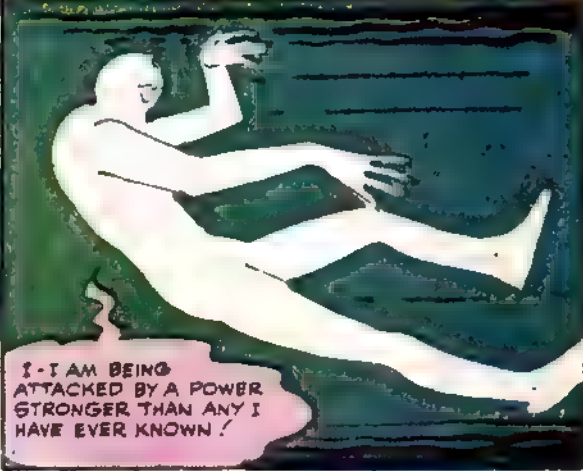


I MUST LEAVE THE HUMAN FIGURE AND EXAMINE IT FROM OUTSIDE!

NEVER HAVE I WITNESSED SUCH A THING! IT IS AS THOUGH I HAVE POSSESSED NAUGHT BUT AN EMPTY SHELL!



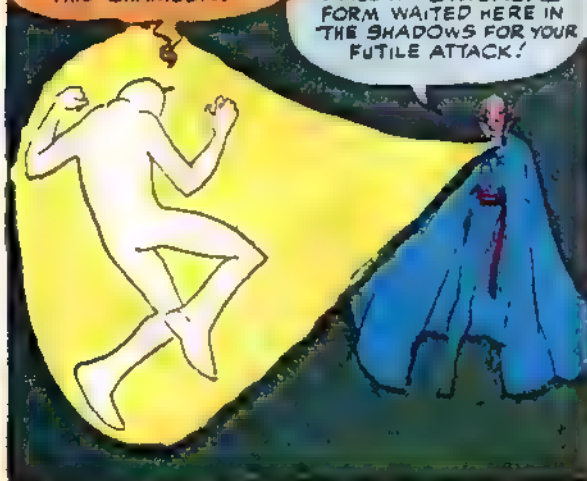
AND THEN, BEFORE ANOTHER SPLIT-SECOND CAN ELAPSE, A POWERFUL WAVE OF MYSTIC FORCE STRIKES THE UNSUSPECTING INTRUDER, HURLING HIM BACK WITH IRRESISTIBLE MIGHT!



I-I AM BEING ATTACKED BY A POWER STRONGER THAN ANY I HAVE EVER KNOWN!

IT IS YOU! B-BUT YOUR BODY... IT STILL SITS AT THE OTHER SIDE OF THIS CHAMBER!

SO IT DOES! JUST WHERE I LEFT IT... AS BAIT TO TRAP YOU! WHILE MY ETHEREAL FORM WAITED HERE IN THE SHADOWS FOR YOUR FUTILE ATTACK!



SECONDS LATER, AFTER THE ETHEREAL ESSENCE OF THE MYSTIC ADVENTURER HAS BEEN JOINED AGAIN WITH HIS PHYSICAL BODY...

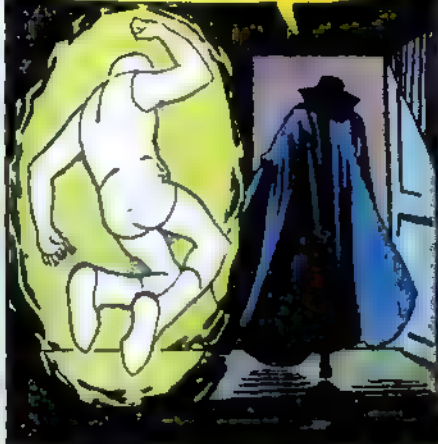
NOW YOU ARE COMPLETELY IN MY POWER! YOU CANNOT MOVE! YOU CANNOT HIDE YOUR THOUGHTS!

NOW I SHALL LEARN YOUR DARKEST SECRETS, AS MY VERY MIND ENTERS YOUR OWN!



AHHH, NOW CLEAR IT IS TO ME NOW! YOU ARE FROM A DIMENSION NOT FAR FROM OUR OWN! WHEN YOU ACCIDENTALLY LEARNED OF OUR EARTH WORLD, YOU DECIDED TO ENTER IT... YOU CHOSE ONE SMALL VILLAGE, AS A TEST! THEN, IF YOU SUCCEEDED IN GAINING CONTROL OF THIS VILLAGE, YOU WOULD TRY FOR THE BIGGEST PRIZE... THE ENTIRE PLANET!

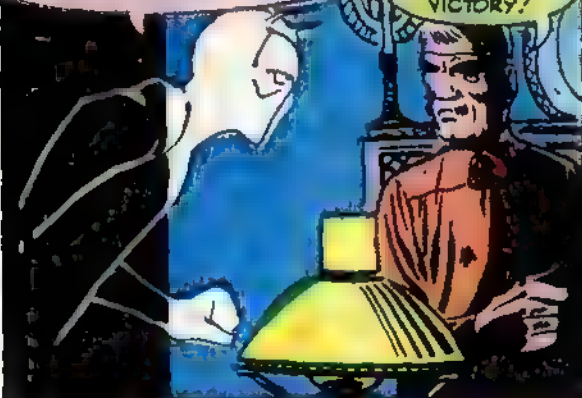
YOU ARE NO LONGER OF ANY CONCERN TO ME! I SHALL NOW DISCOVER YOUR LEADER'S PLACE OF CONCEALMENT, AND PROVE TO HIM THAT HUMANITY IS NOT FOR THE TAKING!



BUT NO SOONER DOES DR. STRANGE RELEASE HIS FOE, THAN...

YOU HAVE POSSESSED THE BODY OF THE VILLAGE MAYOR! ONLY YOU CAN STOP DR. STRANGE NOW! YOU MUST AROUSE THE TOWNSPEOPLE...

I SHALL NOT FAIL! WE CANNOT BE THWARTED WHEN WE ARE SO CLOSE TO ABSOLUTE VICTORY!



AND SO, THE PANICKY VILLAGERS LISTEN TO THEIR MAYOR, LITTLE DREAMING THAT HE, TOO, IS ONE OF THE "POSSESSED"!

IT IS THE ACCURSED NEWCOMER TO OUR VILLAGE... DR. STRANGE... WHO IS RESPONSIBLE FOR THE WITCHERY WE HAVE SEEN! HE MUST BE DRIVEN AWAY... OR SLAIN!

DEATH TO DR. STRANGE!

FIND HIM! DESTROY HIM!



MY MAGIC AMULET HAS LED ME TO THIS PLACE! HERE WILL I FIND THE ENEMY FROM ANOTHER DIMENSION! BUT... WHAT'S THIS? THE PEOPLE HAVE TURNED AGAINST ME!

THERE HE IS! GET HIM!



SUDDENLY, THE MASTER OF BLACK MAGIC WHIRLS HIS CAPE AROUND HIM... CAUSING AN AURA OF LIGHT AND SHADOW WHICH STRIKES THE EYES WITH BLINDING INTENSITY!

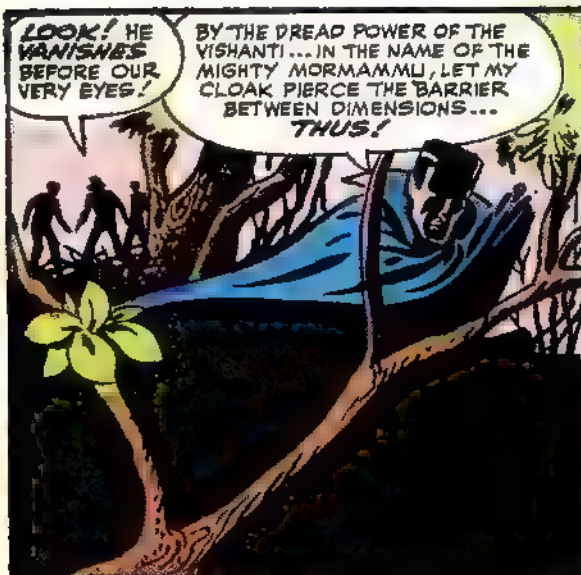
BACK, YOU BRAINGLESS RABBLE! BACK, I SAY!



MOMENTARILY STUNNED BY THE AWESOME DISPLAY OF MAGICAL MIGHT, THE CROWD FALLS BACK, AND THEN...

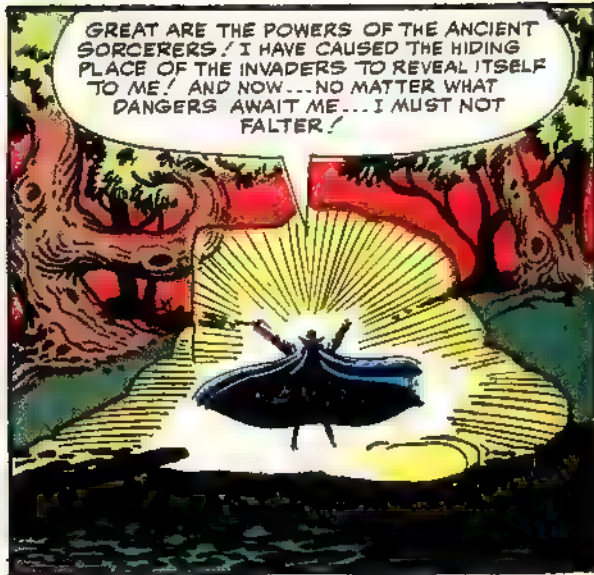
NOW THAT MY AMULET HAS BROUGHT ME TO THE EXACT SPOT, I NEED DELAY NO LONGER!



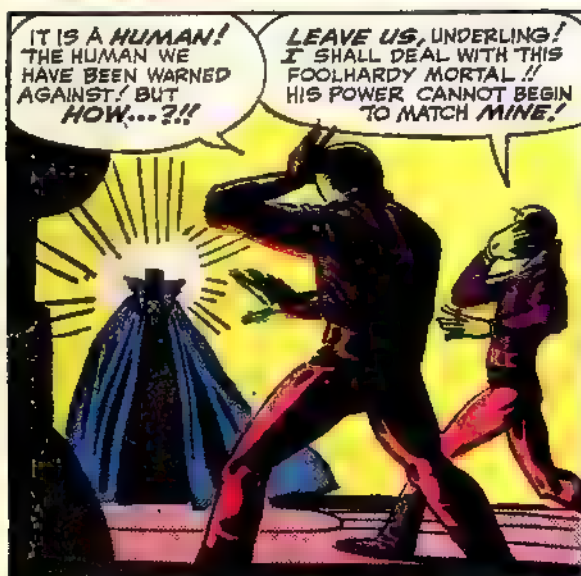


LOOK! HE
VANISHES
BEFORE OUR
VERY EYES!

BY THE DREAD POWER OF THE
VISHANTI... IN THE NAME OF THE
MIGHTY MORMAMMU, LET MY
CLOAK PIERCE THE BARRIER
BETWEEN DIMENSIONS...
THUS!

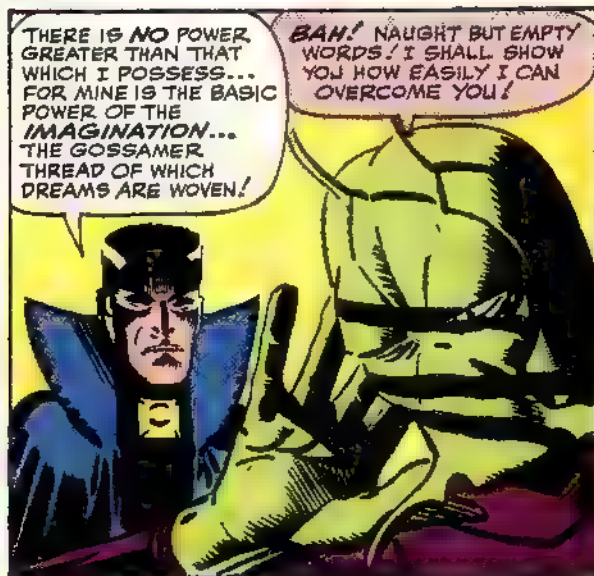


GREAT ARE THE POWERS OF THE ANCIENT
SORCERERS! I HAVE CAUSED THE HIDING
PLACE OF THE INVADERS TO REVEAL ITSELF
TO ME! AND NOW... NO MATTER WHAT
DANGERS AWAIT ME... I MUST NOT
FALTER!



IT IS A **HUMAN!**
THE HUMAN WE
HAVE BEEN WARNED
AGAINST! BUT
HOW...?!!

LEAVE US, UNDERLING!
I SHALL DEAL WITH THIS
FOOLHARDY MORTAL!!
HIS POWER CANNOT BEGIN
TO MATCH **MINE!**



THERE IS NO POWER
GREATER THAN THAT
WHICH I POSSESS...
FOR MINE IS THE BASIC
POWER OF THE
IMAGINATION...
THE GOSSAMER
THREAD OF WHICH
DREAMS ARE WOVEN!

BAH! NAUGHT BUT EMPTY
WORDS! I SHALL SHOW
YOU HOW EASILY I CAN
OVERCOME YOU!



FIRST, I CREATE A
SHIELD AROUND MYSELF...
A SHIELD WHICH NO FORCE
CAN PENETRATE!



AND SO, THIS PROTECTED, I
USE THE AWESOME MENTAL
POWER AT MY COMMAND TO
BREAK YOUR WILL... TO
POSSESS YOUR ENTIRE BEING!



THIS IS A SIGHT THE LIKE OF
WHICH FEW MORTALS HAVE EVER
WITNESSED... THE TITANIC
STRUGGLE FOR SUPREMACY
BETWEEN TWO CHAMPIONS FROM
TWO COMPLETELY DIFFERENT
DIMENSIONS!

THE PRESSURE HIS MIND EXERTS IS **APPALLING!** BUT I MUST NOT WEAKEN! BY THE GREY SPECTER OF THE VISHANTI, I SUMMON ALL THE MYSTIC FORCES OF THE SHADOW WORLDS... I CALL ON THE HOSTS OF DARKNESS... **STRIKE... STRIKE** AT THE COMMAND OF YOUR MASTER!



AND THERE, IN THAT NETHER-
WORLD BETWEEN TWO
DIMENSIONS, A STARTLING
TRANSFORMATION BEGINS TO
TAKE PLACE...



...AS THE BARRIER OF FORCE
CREATED BY THE ALIEN
INVADER BEGINS TO SLOWLY
MELT AWAY, UNTIL...



NO MORE!
I CAN
BEAR
NO MORE!

I MUST CONSOLIDATE
MY VICTORY NOW,
BEFORE HE CAN REGAIN
HIS STRENGTH!

MY PATIENCE IS ALMOST
EXHAUSTED! IF YOU WISH
YOUR LIFE TO
BE SPARED,
RECALL ALL
THOSE WHO
ARE STILL AT
LARGE IN THE
VILLAGE!



AND SO, WITHIN SECONDS, THE
"POSSESSORS" LEAVE THEIR
HUMAN HOSTS, AND RETURN
FROM WHENCE THEY CAME,
UNTIL...



...THE VERY LAST ONE REACHES
THE DIMENSIONAL ENTRANCE
TO HIS OWN WORLD!

THEY ARE ALL RETURNED! NOW,
PERMIT US TO LEAVE YOUR
DIMENSION! WE SHALL NEVER
COME BACK AGAIN!



THEY ARE **GONE!** BUT I DO NOT
INTEND TO TRUST THEIR WORD! I
HAVE CAST A SPELL, SEALING
THIS ENTRANCE FOREVER! AND
SO, THE POSSESSORS SHALL
MENACE MANKIND NO MORE!



NOW IT IS TIME FOR ME TO TAKE
MY LEAVE! I SHALL EXPLAIN
NOTHING TO THE VILLAGERS! IT
IS BEST THIS WAY! THEY WILL BE
LEFT WITH ANOTHER SUPERSTITION...
ANOTHER LEGEND TO HAND DOWN
FROM FATHER TO SON! THUS HAS IT
EVER BEEN... THUS WILL IT
EVER BE!



FOR THE HISTORY
OF MAN IS RICH
IN LEGEND... IN
FOLKLORE WHICH
IS CLOSER TO
THE TRUTH THAN
ANY SUSPECT!

NEXT ISSUE... ANOTHER JOURNEY INTO THE WORLD OF BLACK MAGIC
WITH THE MYSTIFYING MANIPULATOR OF THE SUPERNATURAL...
DOCTOR STRANGE, MASTER OF THE MYSTIC ARTS!

The End

CONTINUED

vacation. I was just preparing to enjoy myself when this scientific rainmaker spoils everything for me. Now, science has its good features, son, and I'd be the last person in the Universe to talk down the merits of that noble profession. On the other hand without my help, your scientific rainmaker wouldn't stand a chance. It's been my job through the centuries to get to the scene of a storm and regulate the elements. My rainmaking stick is essential to this work, I assure you. If the magic stick isn't perfect, the storms will get out of hand. Like music, my boy, the pieces of an orchestra need a good conductor. That's what I do with rain, wind, lightning, thunder. I'm the appointed maestro for this territory. Don't you believe me?"

"Well, it does sound a little far-fetched," Hugh admitted honestly. "But I can understand how you feel if this scientific rainmaker made it necessary for you to cut short your vacation plans so that you can conduct today's storm."

"I'm pleased to find you're sympathetic, even if you *did* break my rain stick," the stranger glowed.

"As a matter of fact," Hugh said, "the fellows and I were planning an outing this afternoon. All we needed were a few hours of sunshine to make us happy. Would have done my Pop a world of good, too, seeing as he just got over being sick."

"That is too bad," the stranger said. "Of course, in my job it's impossible to please everyone, but you are a well-mannered boy, and you've behaved nicely. You didn't mean to break the stick, did you?"

"Oh, no," said Hugh hastily. "I wouldn't be that selfish because I know the reservoir is low, or the rainmaker . . . that is, the scientific rainmaker wouldn't have been called in on the job."

"Well, in that case," the fellow said thoughtfully, "I might delay getting this stick fixed until . . . say six o'clock. With a little overtime 'leading', I could whip up the elements to do some overtime and make up for the rainfall I would have gotten going this afternoon. Would that suit you?"



"It certainly would," said Hugh eagerly.

The fellow picked up the broken stick and grinned cheerfully.

"All right then. Enjoy the sunshine, my boy . . . but get home by six o'clock sharp! Hurry off now, and please keep this meeting a secret. I really shouldn't talk so freely. It would never do for word to get around about me. I'd become a public spectacle and there wouldn't be time for doing my job properly."

It took Hugh some time to walk his flat-tired bicycle home.

He gave the medicine to his father who had come outside to bask in the sudden sunshine.

"Cleared up unexpectedly," he said happily. "Your friends decided to go on that outing after all. They're waiting for you. But you better clean up first. From the looks of you, you must have taken quite a spill from your bike!"

Sure enough, Hugh noticed that his hands and dungarees were scraped with dirt. In the mirror he saw a dark mark on his forehead. It looked as if he might have bumped himself, but he felt no pain.

Could it be, he wondered, that in a split-second's time he had fallen from his bike and dreamed the meeting with the stranger? But if he had, how did that account for the clear skies overhead?

"I'll be back at six," he told his mother. "It's going to rain then."

"How do you know?" she asked in amazement.

Yet, at six o'clock, back home, the Wimms family watched the rain begin.

"Artificial rainmaking sure is marvelous," his father said.

"So is Hugh," his mother enthused. "He predicted the *exact* hour this would start."

That Hugh is a weather forecaster today, you may say, is pure coincidence. He's not always right in his forecasts, mind you, but he chuckles over that. Somehow, he's got a hunch that an oilskin-wrapped stranger with a mended "stick" is occasionally playing a practical joke on him.

THE END

GIVE ME JUST ONE EVENING and I'LL TEACH YOU TO HYPNOTIZE EASILY!



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Imagine the thrill of being able to **EXERT YOUR POWER OVER OTHERS**.
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you can also do. There isn't any-
thing anyone has ever done with this
art that you cannot do! YOU can
make people cry, laugh, shout, stop
smoking, recall childhood memories,
act like an infant, make water taste
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so plain, **SIMPLE** language that any-
one can understand. After the third
lesson you are able to begin per-
forming countless techniques and
powers clearly explained in the next
22 lessons. You'll learn how to cure
bad habits in yourself and others;
how to **BUILD PERSONAL MAGNET-
ISM**, **SLEEP** without drugs, use
Hypnotism to help **STOP PAIN**, stop
smoking, **BUILD WILL POWER**,
LOSE WEIGHT, **IMPROVE YOUR
MEMORY** and so much more. And
you'll learn how to **MAKE MONEY**
with your new power by entertaining
at parties, lodges, club meetings,
etc. Truly, this knowledge will give
you a new **SURGE OF CONFIDENCE
AND POWER** unlike any you have
ever known!

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etc. Truly, this knowledge will give
you a new **SURGE OF CONFIDENCE
AND POWER** unlike any you have
ever known!

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- ☐ STOP SMOKING
- ☐ PERFORM STUNTS, TRICKS
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☐ I agree that I will not use this power for other
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BOYS! MEN!

Mike Marvel



ARE YOU WEAK, ALWAYS TIRED, LACK PEPS?

Whether you're thin and scrawny, or sagging with unsightly fat — my secret DYNAPLEX method will cream pep, vigor and red-blooded vitality into your puny, exhausted body. Once DYNAPLEX makes you a two-fisted dynamo of manly beauty, rippling with power, glowing with magnetic appeal—you'll be bursting with get-up-and-go. Man, you'll be really ALIVE—tingling with zest and rip-roaring energy—for the first time in years!

PROOF!

"I tried two other systems, before my buddy told me about DYNAPLEX. It really works—and how! I've put two inches of solid muscle on my biceps, three inches on my chest. It's like magic!"
L. C., New York City
"I never thought you could build terrific muscles without exercises or weights. Started DYNAPLEX two weeks ago, and am building a great physique!"
E. G., Detroit, Mich.

"DYNAPLEX is the best yet. Only three weeks, and I have more dates than I can handle! I am telling all my pals about DYNAPLEX."
F. S., Chicago, Ill.

ARE YOU ASHAMED OF YOUR BODY NOW?

Pat—do YOURSELF a favor! Take a good long look in a mirror. Do you see a puny, scrawny body—scrawny arms—bony shoulders—a flabby stomach and skinny legs? Do they laugh and grin when you take off your shirt? BELIEVE IT OR NOT—I can add solid pounds of rippling, steely he-man MEAT to your body. I can take those skeleton arms and PACK EVERY INCH with explosive virile MAN-MUSCLE. I can take that caved-in chest and build on six rugged inches of strong sleek MAN-SIZED BRAWN. I can clothe your skinny frame with GIANT RIPPLING DYNAPLEX MUSCLES that will have them gasping with awe and admiration! And with NO tiring exercise, NO high-priced bar-bells or gym equipment!

FREE! "SECRETS OF BEING ATTRACTIVE!"

Fellow! Mail the coupon now, and receive Mike Marvel's FREE GIFT to you. This exciting and informative book, DISCOVER a secret method for developing a new, almost MAGNETIC way of being attractive and popular! At parties, dances, at the beach—you will have the people clustering around you breathlessly, while the guys watch enviously. That's what they don't want! The answer is in this exciting new book, your GIFT from Mike Marvel. Fill out and mail the coupon NOW!



Yes! If they LAUGH at you now when you take off your shirt—they'll be amazed—once they've seen the rugged DYNAPLEX BODY I can give you! I'll build you a tough massive body—shoulders clad with solid inches of he-man BRAWN. I'll give you bulging biceps, trip-hammer fists, power-packed legs, and a chest that will have you popping the buttons off your shirt with pride! (—says MIKE MARVEL, "Builder of Champion Bodies")

In my classes this same course of instruction would cost \$110.00.

Or is your problem a body sagging with soft rolls of unhealthy, handsome FAT? Furious muscles—sagging stomach—bloated face—arms heavy with layers of BLUBBER? Are you ASHAMED to go to the beach and let them see your "FAT-MAN PHYSIQUE"?

If so, wake up fellas! THIS IS IT! I will peel off that fat and give you a lean virile DYNAPLEX BOLD, armored with a sheath of hard tough handsome muscle. I can build you into a healthy, streamlined HERCULES instilling with dynamic manly strength. I'll give you a taut rock-hard midsection—muscles clad like coil steel springs. I can pack solid DYNAMITE into your fists and give you a rugged handsome build brim-full of virile strength. And with NO starvation diets — NO fatiguing calisthenics — NO expensive health-foods!

HOW DYNAPLEX BUILDS BEAUTIFUL BODIES

DYNAPLEX is the modern miracle of body-building. It takes no tiresome exercises, "crash diets, protein foods, and no weights or bar-bells. DYNAPLEX is the amazing discovery of a West German Doctor whose research into the Science of Strength found a thrilling new way to build GIANT BRAWNY MUSCLES in ten minutes a day. With DYNAPLEX you "BURN" each muscle once—in a certain way—that is more effective than if you exercised that muscle 30, 50, even 100 times the old-fashioned way. With DYNAPLEX you get bigger results in ten minutes than after hours of grunting and groaning, heaving heavy weights. DYNAPLEX coaxes each muscle in your body to bring out its round, steely fullness and exciting symmetry. DYNAPLEX packs that muscle with glowing vibrant new strength and energy—FAST. In ten minutes a day I can cover your bony frame with healthy rippling muscle—give you a deep, powerful chest—solid shoulders and iron wrists—tough, slim midsection—and trim, steel-spring legs—simply thru "DYNAPLEXING" each muscle once a day! There's nothing wrong with the bar-bell and weight-lifting method... but why bother? Why waste time and money, why sweat and strain your body with a steam-baked symmetrical SAMSON-STRONG BODY—when you can do it better—bigger—faster—easier with the DYNAPLEX SECRET?

Mike Marvel System, Dept. 343, 285 Market Street, Newark, N. J.

MY SECRET NEW DYNAPLEX METHOD

CAN BUILD YOU A MAGNIFICENT NEW HE-MAN-MUSCLED BODY IN JUST TEN MINUTES A DAY—with absolutely NO weights—NO bar-bells—NO EXERCISE AT ALL!

STRONG-MAN BODY THAT'S ADMIRABLE!

Be honest. Down deep you KNOW you envy the boy with the virile, magnificent build. Every man and boy secretly desires a broad brawny back, a solid man-muscled chest, handsome he-man shoulders, arms rippling with tough, steely sinews, a narrow waist, slim hips and springy, power-packed legs. Be a fellow with TWO-FISTED BIG MUSCLE APPEAL... they only laugh at skinny guys like "Fats'o'a".

Let me give you a glowing new body, brimming over with energy and irresistible inches of solid muscle on your chest—he-man appeal. I can build three inches of beef and brawn on your shoulders. I will mold you a handsome super-body of terrific strength, give you a crushing grip, legs crammed with steel springs, a lean taut rock-solid punch-proof midsection. Pack your body with energy and stamina that will help make you popular.

GIVE ME TEN MINUTES A DAY —THAT'S ALL!

After DYNAPLEX, you'll be able to roll up your sleeves and take off your shirt and for the first time in your life, you'll be PROUD of your manly build. Yes, pal, say goodbye to your weak, flabby frame—get ready for adventure and romance with a solid physique that glows and vibrates with virile he-man appeal. You'll be really proud to have people stare your MAGNIFICENT HE-MAN MUSCLES at the beach or gym. And when the fellows stare with envy and jealousy—when friends crowd around to squeeze your iron biceps or touch your bulging brawny chest—when they ask in amazement HOW you did it—tell them about the Magic Secret of DYNAPLEX!

Your Pal,
MIKE MARVEL

"Builder of Champion Bodies"

YOU PAY ONLY
\$1.98

COMPLETE
Nothing Else To Buy

MAIL MONEY ORDER, NO CASH FREE-RIDE COUPON NOW!

- ☐ Check as many of the boxes you want HERE—Complete System \$1.98.
- ☐ Lose fat, be trim and solid
- ☐ Build deep brawny chest, bulging with virile manly strength
- ☐ Lose fat, be trim, strong handsome
- ☐ Mold mighty back, broad beefy shoulders
- ☐ Build muscle on skinny wrists and arms
- ☐ Develop crushing grip, two-fisted punch-power

MIKE MARVEL SYSTEM, Dept. 343
285 Market Street
Newark, New Jersey.

Okay, Mike! Here's \$1.98. Send me your COMPLETE (nothing else to buy later!) body-building course. I want to use your new secret of DYNAPLEX to win a HERCULES HE-MAN BODY in just ten minutes a day. Rush my copy of the DYNAPLEX SYSTEM and my free gift book "Secrets of Being Attractive" on your money-back guarantee. In plain wrappers. If I don't develop a splendid physique and become more popular you will refund my money in full.

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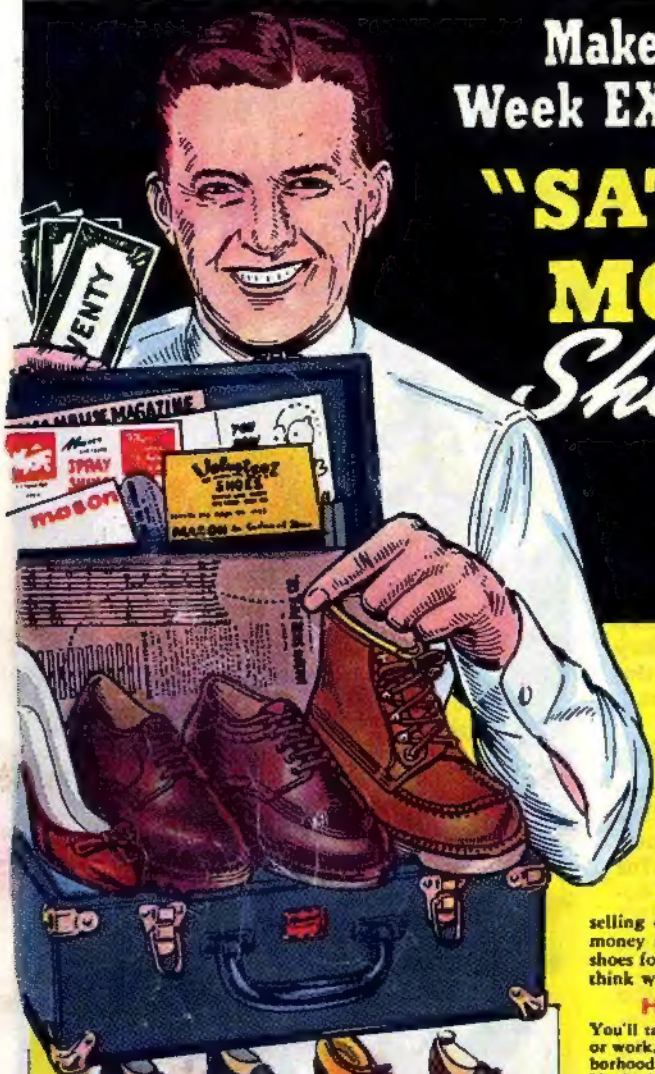
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